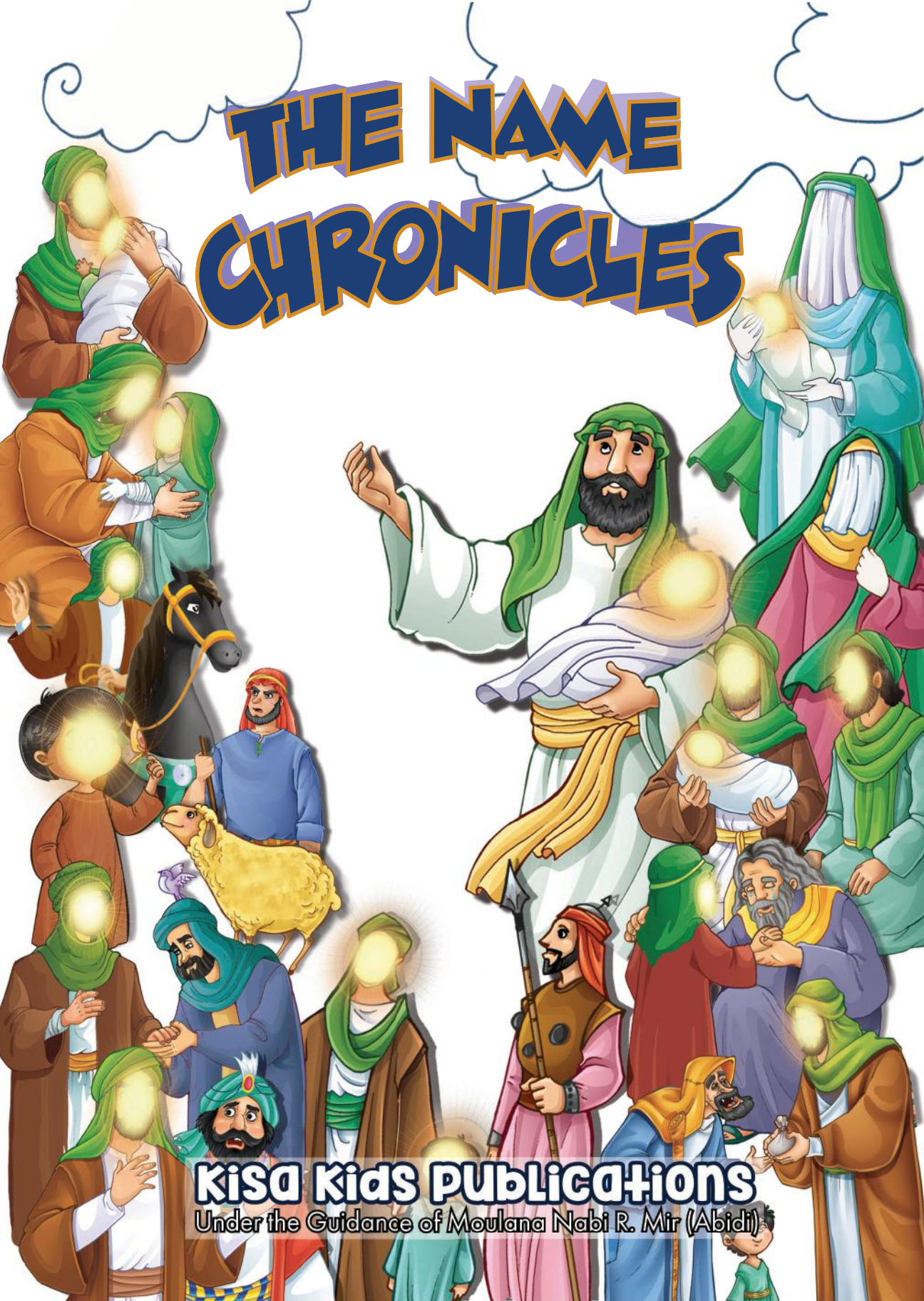
COMIC BOOK

THE NAME CHRONICLES

Kisa Kids Publications
Under the Guidance of Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

THE NAME CHRONICLES



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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (AJ). May Allāh (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Acknowledgments

Prophet Muḥammad (s): The pen of a writer is mightier than the blood of a martyr.

True reward lies with Allāh, but we would like to sincerely thank Shaykh Salim Yusufali and Sisters Sabika Mithani, Fatemah Meghji, Liliana Villalvazo, Marwa Kachmar, Farwa Nawab, Irum Abbas, Zahra Sabur, Fatima Hussain, Zehra Abbas, Farheen Abbas, Sabeen Ahsan, and Abir Rashid. We would especially like to thank Nainava Publications for their contributions. May Allāh bless them in this world and the next.

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (s): Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahlul Bayt (a).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islām and the Ahlul Bayt (a), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamah and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

Similarly to the Blessed Names series, the goal of the Name Chronicles series is to help children form a lasting bond with the 14 Mā'ṣūmīn by learning about,and connecting with their names. While the two series are similar, the language of the Name Chronicles is suited for slightly older children so they too can benefit from this knowledge. We hope that you and your children will enjoy these books and use them as a means to achieve this goal, inshā'Allāh. We pray to Allāh to give us the strength and tawfīq to perform our duties and responsibilities.

With Duʿās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have **not** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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What is in a Name?

Our names are a very special part of us. Many times, they shape our personalities and even explain who we are or the person we would like to become. In this comic series, you will explore the names and titles of our beloved 14 Mā'ṣūmīn. Did you know that their names and titles were not just ordinary names? They were special because they were given to them by Allah!

Allah has given seven special heavenly names to our Mā'ṣūmīn: Muhammad, Ali, Fatimah, Hasan, Husain, Ja'far, and Musa. Behind each of these names is a heavenly power!

In addition to their names, each of the Mā'ṣūmīn also had special titles by which they became famous. Their titles were often given to them because of the circumstances of their time, but these titles and characteristics were common amongst all of the Mā'ṣūmīn. For example, Imam al-Baqir (a) was known for spreading knowledge because he was able to create many new universities and branches of knowledge during his time. However, if the other Mā'ṣūmīn had the same opportunity, they, too, would have spread knowledge and created universities during their time. In these stories, you will discover some of the reasons why the Mā'ṣūmīn received their specific names and titles.

Many of us share our names with these beloved Mā'ṣūmīn or know people who do. Let's learn about these blessed names and titles so we can strive to be like our blessed Mā'ṣūmīn!

Please recite a Fātiḥa for
the marḥūmīn of the Kachmar, Haidar,
Zaidi, Hasan and Nawab family.

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1 PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S)

LET ME INTRODUCE A TRUE BELIEVER TO YOU! A BELIEVER IS A PERSON WHOM OTHER BELIEVERS TRUST WITH THEIR LIVES AND WEALTH. LET ME INTRODUCE A TRUE MUSLIM TO YOU! A MUSLIM IS SOMEONE WITH WHOM OTHER MUSLIMS FEEL COMPLETELY SAFE (FROM THEIR HANDS AND TONGUE). THIS IS BECAUSE IT IS NOT PERMISSIBLE FOR A BELIEVER TO WRONG ANOTHER BELIEVER...

Al-Kāfī, Vol. 2, P. 235

NAME
MUHAMMAD

NICKNAME
ABUL-QASIM

BIRTHDATE
RABI' UL AWWAL 17, 53 BH

BIRTHPLACE
MECCA

FATHER'S NAME
ABDULLAH SON OF ABDUL MUTTALIB

MOTHER'S NAME
AMINAH DAUGHTER OF WAHAB

PROPHETHOOD
RAJAB 27, 13 BH AT AGE 40

SHAHADAH
SAFAR 28, 11 AH AT AGE 63

PROPHET MUHAMMAD'S (S) LIFE

570 AD

Year of the Elephant: Abraha fails to destroy the Ka'bah. The father of the Prophet (s), Abdullah b. Abdul Muttalib, passes away before the Prophet (s) is born.

570 AD

The Prophet (s) is born in Mecca.

619 AD

The Boycott of Bani Hashim. Aamul Huzn, The Year of Sorrow: Abu Talib and Lady Khadijah (a) pass away.

620 AD

The Pledges of Aqabah

0 AH

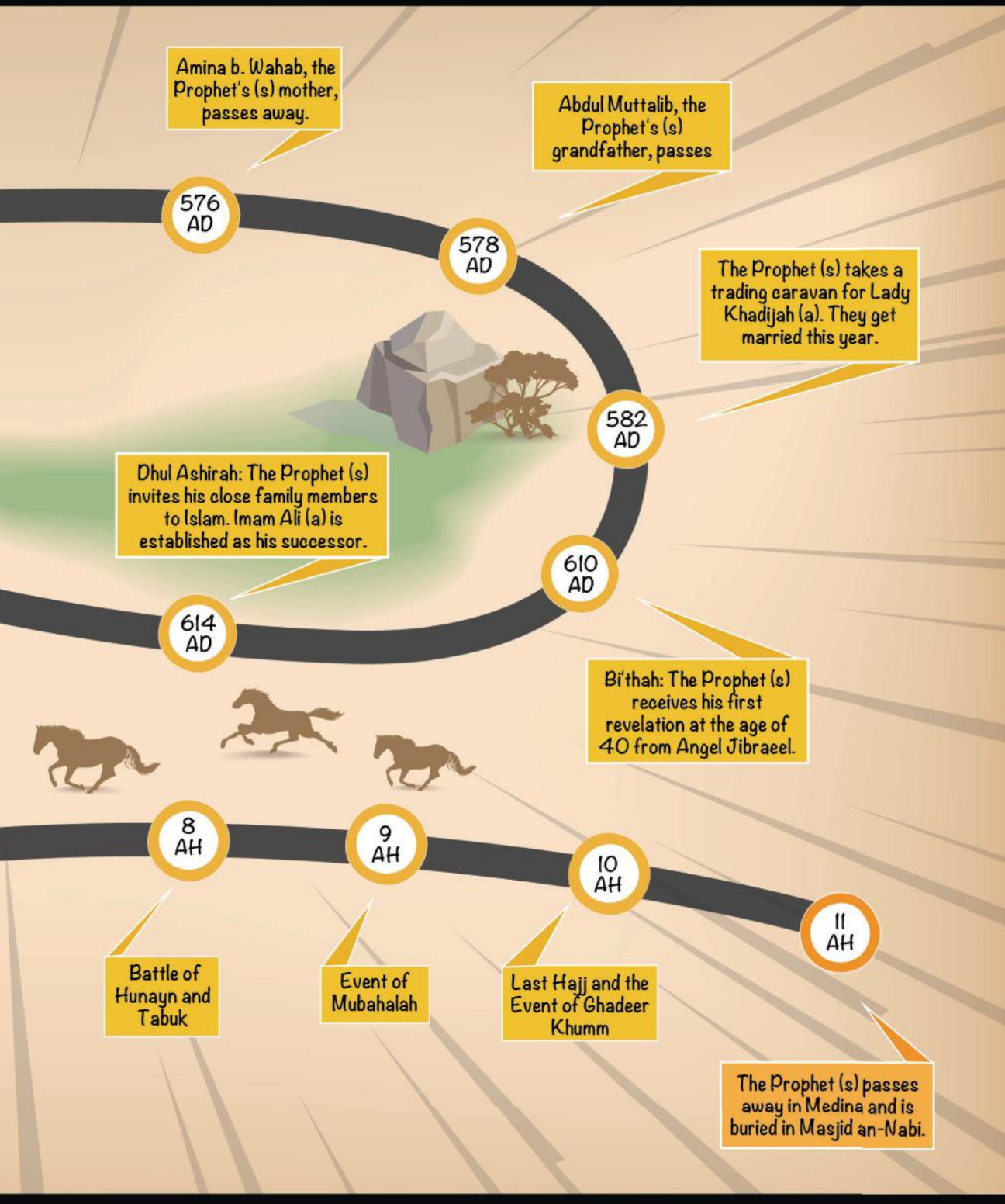
The Prophet (s) and the Muslims migrate to Yathrib (Medina). The Hijrah calendar officially starts.

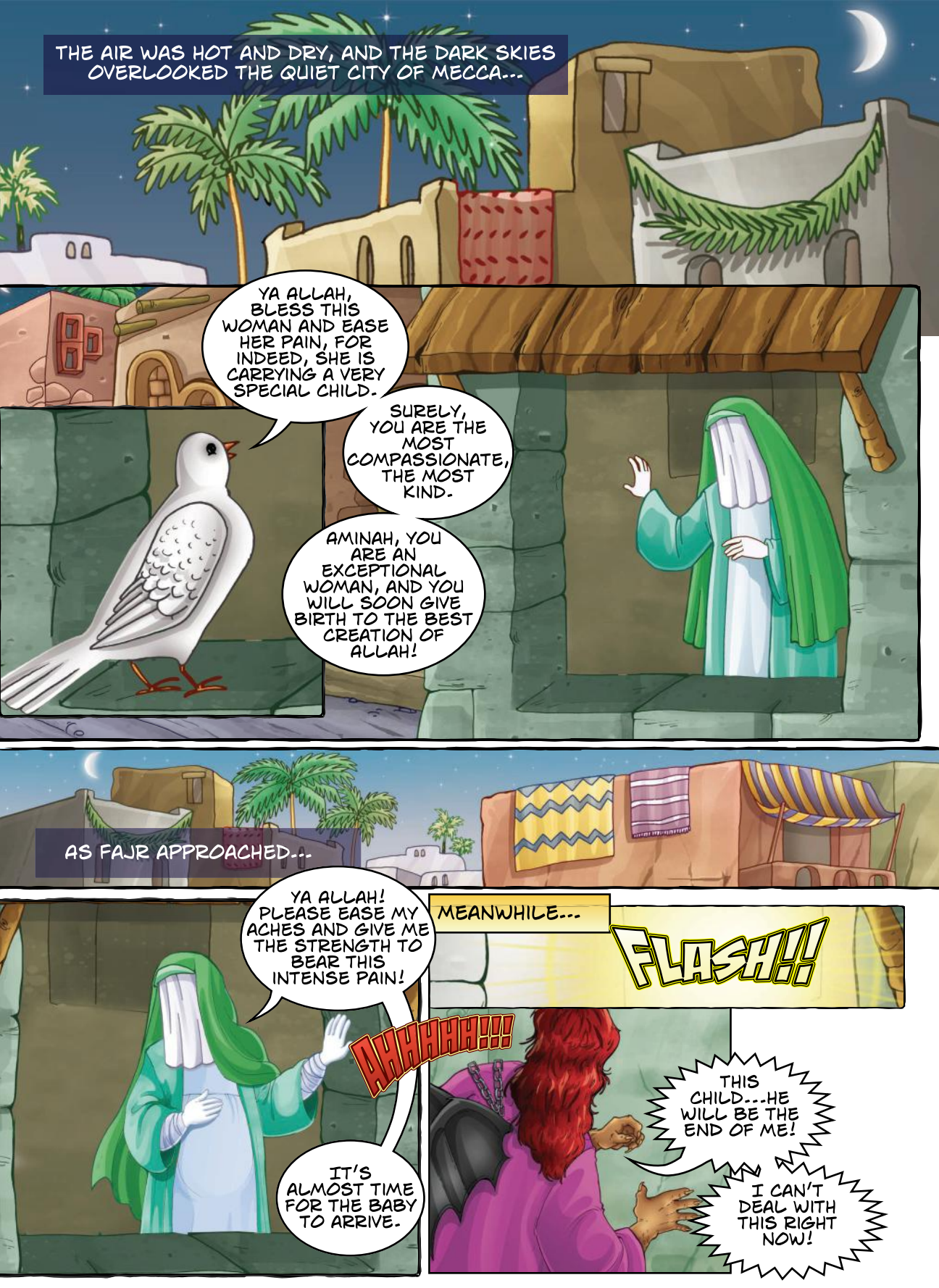
2-5 AH

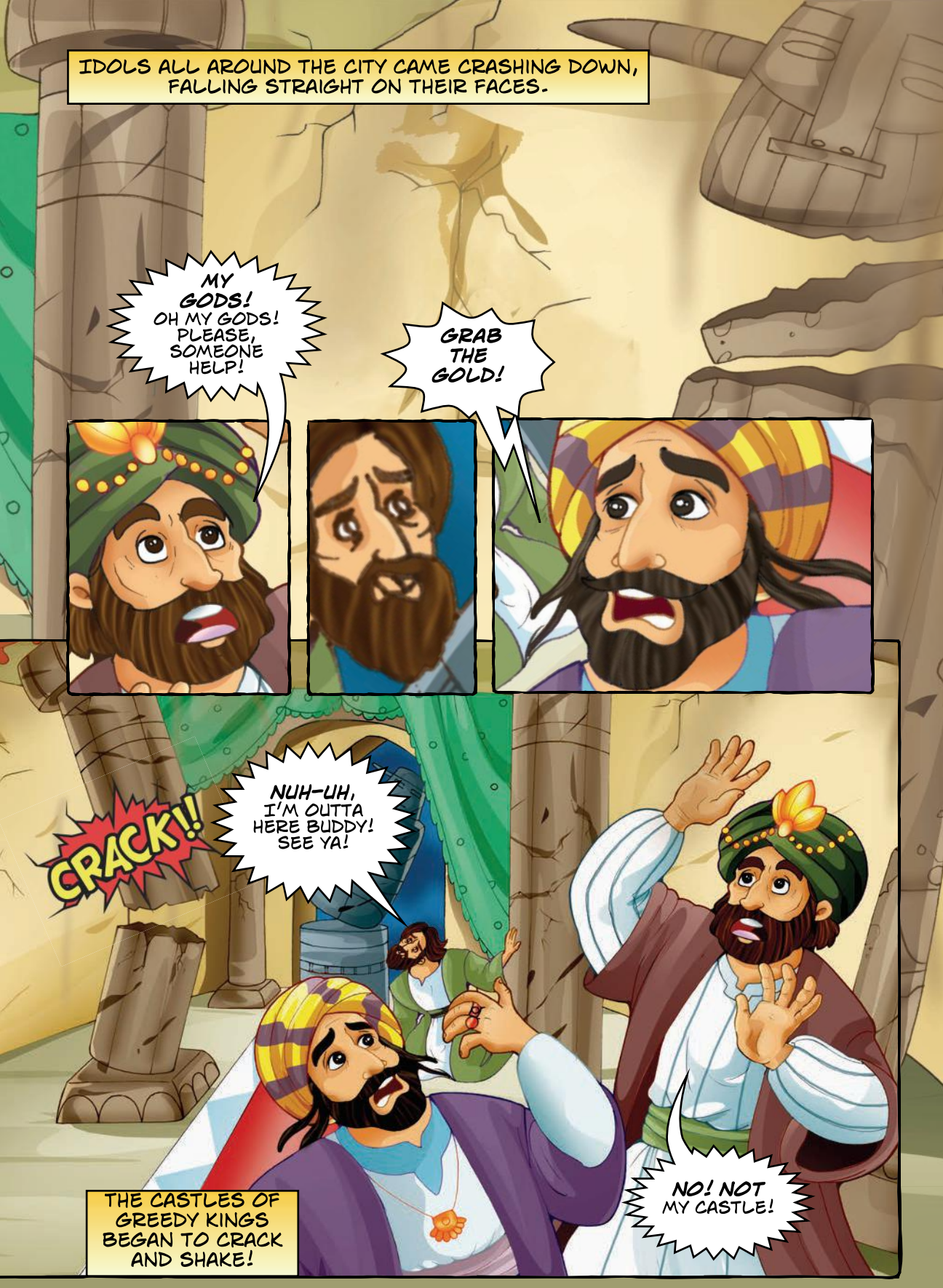
The Qiblah is changed from Masjid al-Aqsa to the Ka'bah. 3 major battles against the Meccans: Badr, Uhud, and Khandaq

6-8 AH

Treaty of Hudaibiyyah with the Meccans. Invitation to Islam sent to neighbouring countries. The Meccans break the treaty and the Muslims then conquer Mecca peacefully.


Amina b. Wahab, the Prophet's (s) mother, passes away.
576 AD
Abdul Muttalib, the Prophet's (s) grandfather, passes
578 AD
The Prophet (s) takes a trading caravan for Lady Khadijah (a). They get married this year.
582 AD
Dhul Ashirah: The Prophet (s) invites his close family members to Islam. Imam Ali (a) is established as his successor.
614 AD
610 AD
Bi'thah: The Prophet (s) receives his first revelation at the age of 40 from Angel Jibraeel.
8 AH
9 AH
10 AH
11 AH
Battle of Hunayn and Tabuk
Event of Mubahalah
Last Hajj and the Event of Ghadeer Khumm
The Prophet (s) passes away in Medina and is buried in Masjid an-Nabi.

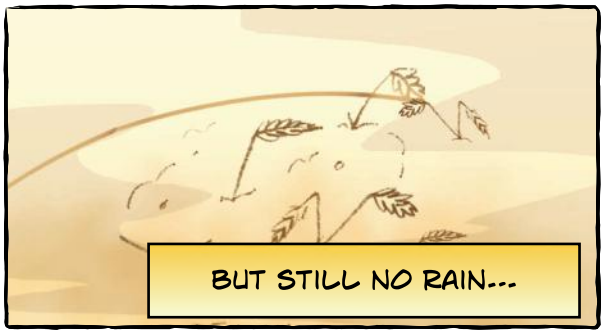

THE AIR WAS HOT AND DRY, AND THE DARK SKIES OVERLOOKED THE QUIET CITY OF MECCA...
YA ALLAH, BLESS THIS WOMAN AND EASE HER PAIN, FOR INDEED, SHE IS CARRYING A VERY SPECIAL CHILD.
SURELY, YOU ARE THE MOST COMPASSIONATE, THE MOST KIND.
AMINAH, YOU ARE AN EXCEPTIONAL WOMAN, AND YOU WILL SOON GIVE BIRTH TO THE BEST CREATION OF ALLAH!
AS FAJR APPROACHED...
YA ALLAH! PLEASE EASE MY ACHES AND GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO BEAR THIS INTENSE PAIN!
AHHHH!!!
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE BABY TO ARRIVE.
MEANWHILE...
FLASH!!
THIS CHILD...HE WILL BE THE END OF ME!
I CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS RIGHT NOW!


IDOLS ALL AROUND THE CITY CAME CRASHING DOWN, FALLING STRAIGHT ON THEIR FACES.
MY GODS! OH MY GODS! PLEASE, SOMEONE HELP!
GRAB THE GOLD!
CRACK!!
NUH-UH, I'M OUTTA HERE BUDDY! SEE YA!
NO! NOT MY CASTLE!
THE CASTLES OF GREEDY KINGS BEGAN TO CRACK AND SHAKE!

AS AMINAH HELD HER SWEET BABY CLOSE TO HER, AN ANGEL CAME DOWN FROM THE SKY INTO HER SMALL, HUMBLE HOUSE.
YA AMINAH, YOU ARE NOW THE MOTHER OF THE BEST CREATION OF ALLAH.
ALLAH HAS COMMANDED YOU TO NAME YOUR CHILD MUHAMMAD (S),
'THE PRAISED ONE' BECAUSE EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE WILL PRAISE HIM!
YA ALLAH, THANK YOU FOR BLESSING ME WITH SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY CHILD!
THE NEXT MORNING...
ALHAMDULILLAH, I HAVE BECOME A GRANDFATHER!
ALL PRAISE BELONGS TO ALLAH FOR BRINGING THIS BLESSED BABY INTO THE WORLD!
YA AMINAH, LET ME TAKE HIM TOWARD THE KA'BAH TO ASK FOR ALLAH'S BLESSINGS.
YA ALLAH, I BRING THIS BOY TO YOUR HOUSE SO THAT YOU MAY BLESS AND PROTECT HIM!
I TOUCH HIM TO EACH OF THE CORNERS OF THE KA'BAH SO THAT YOU MAY GRANT HIM YOUR SPECIAL MERCY!

...THE NEWS OF BABY MUHAMMAD'S (S) BIRTH TRAVELED THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF MECCA. THE CITY WAS BUZZING WITH INTEREST AND EXCITEMENT.

IN THE FACE OF SERIOUS DROUGHT, THE PEOPLE OF MECCA TRIED PRAYING TO THEIR IDOLS FOR RAIN...

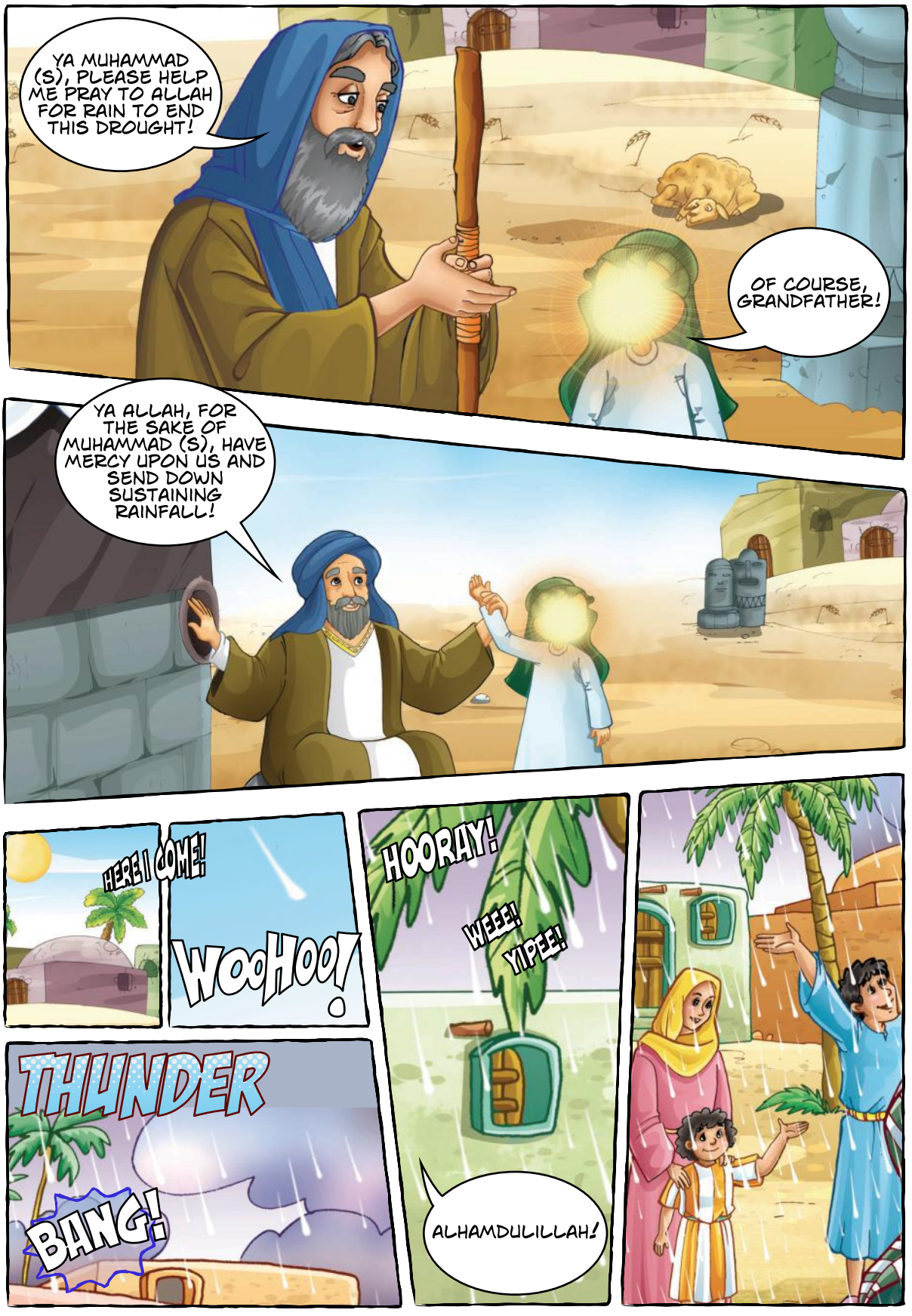


THERE HAS TO BE A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM. WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.
WHAT CAN WE POSSIBLY DO? PRAYING TO THE IDOLS HAS BEEN USELESS! THEY DON'T EVEN SEEM TO CARE!
WHAT IF WE TALK TO ABDUL MUTTALIB? HE MIGHT HAVE ANOTHER IDEA!

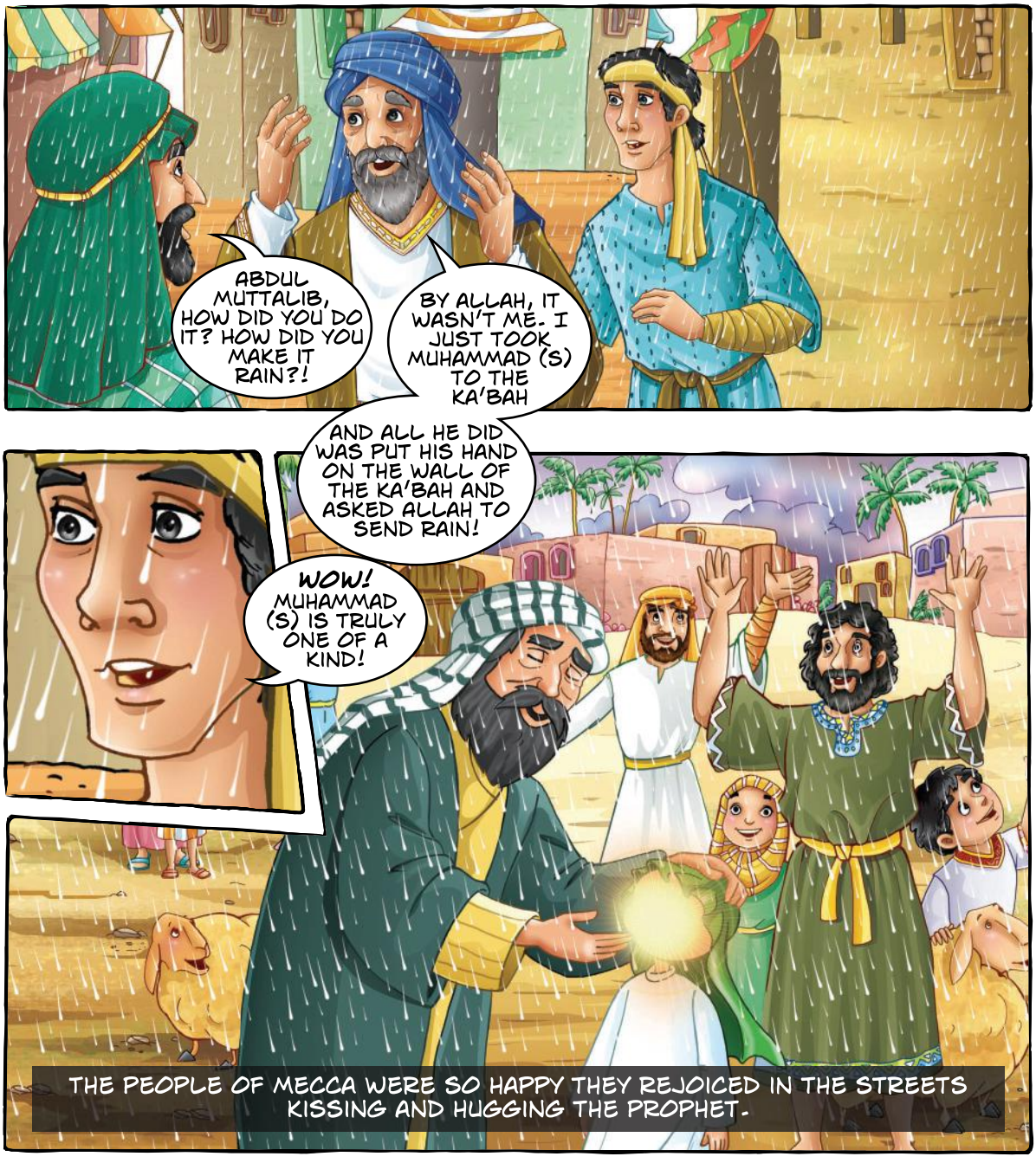
YA ABDUL MUTTALIB, CAN WE PLEASE TALK WITH YOU? WE NEED YOUR HELP!
OF COURSE, WHAT CAN I DO?

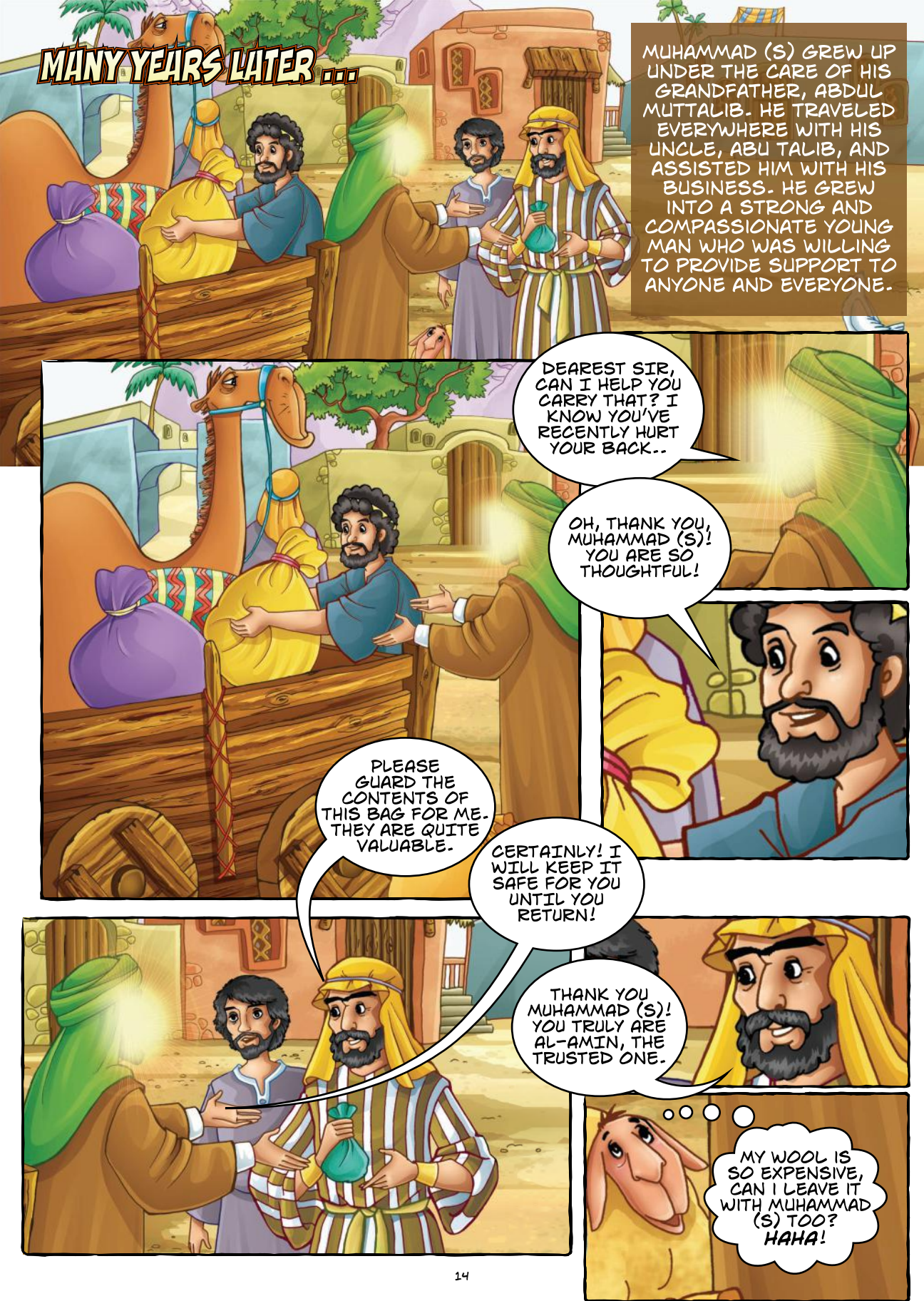
THIS DROUGHT IS KILLING US— LITERALLY! OUR CROPS HAVE DRIED OUT, OUR ANIMALS ARE DYING,
AND SOON, OUR CHILDREN WILL STARVE TO DEATH. YOU'VE GOTTA HELP US!
GIVE ME TIME TO THINK AND WITH ALLAH'S HELP, I WILL FIND A SOLUTION.

DIVINE REVELATION

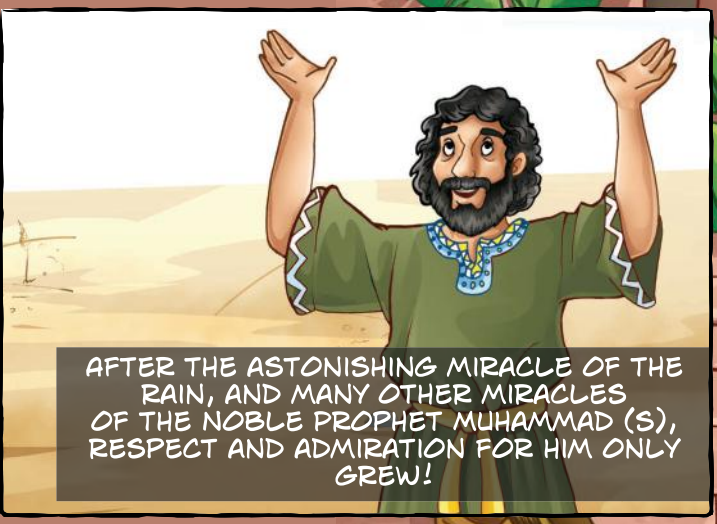

YA MUHAMMAD (S), PLEASE HELP ME PRAY TO ALLAH FOR RAIN TO END THIS DROUGHT!
OF COURSE, GRANDFATHER!
YA ALLAH, FOR THE SAKE OF MUHAMMAD (S), HAVE MERCY UPON US AND SEND DOWN SUSTAINING RAINFALL!
HERE I COME!
WOOHOO!
THUNDER
BANG!
HOORAY!
WEEE!
YIPEE!
ALHAMDULILLAH!

WE'VE FINALLY BEEN BLESSED WITH RAIN! THIS IS A MIRACLE!
ALHAMDULILLAH! I WAS DYING OF THIRST. MUHAMMAD (S) IS A VERY SPECIAL BOY!
WE TRIED EVERYTHING! WE PRAYED TO OUR IDOLS, WE MADE SACRIFICES...
NOTHING WORKED! NOTHING EXCEPT THE TOUCH OF MUHAMMAD'S (S) PURE HAND AND SINCERE PRAYERS!
ALLAH HAS SENT YOU AS A MERCY TO MANKIND! YOU ARE TRULY DESERVING OF PRAISE!
ALHAMDULILLAH!


ABDUL MUTTALIB, HOW DID YOU DO IT? HOW DID YOU MAKE IT RAIN?!
BY ALLAH, IT WASN'T ME. I JUST TOOK MUHAMMAD (S) TO THE KA'BAH
AND ALL HE DID WAS PUT HIS HAND ON THE WALL OF THE KA'BAH AND ASKED ALLAH TO SEND RAIN!
WOW! MUHAMMAD (S) IS TRULY ONE OF A KIND!
THE PEOPLE OF MECCA WERE SO HAPPY THEY REJOICED IN THE STREETS KISSING AND HUGGING THE PROPHET.
THE PROPHET OF ALLAH, MUHAMMAD (S), IS INDEED THE PRAISEWORTHY.


MANY YEARS LATER ...
MUHAMMAD (S) GREW UP UNDER THE CARE OF HIS GRANDFATHER, ABDUL MUTTALIB. HE TRAVELED EVERYWHERE WITH HIS UNCLE, ABU TALIB, AND ASSISTED HIM WITH HIS BUSINESS. HE GREW INTO A STRONG AND COMPASSIONATE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS WILLING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO ANYONE AND EVERYONE.
DEAREST SIR, CAN I HELP YOU CARRY THAT? I KNOW YOU'VE RECENTLY HURT YOUR BACK..
OH, THANK YOU, MUHAMMAD (S)! YOU ARE SO THOUGHTFUL!
PLEASE GUARD THE CONTENTS OF THIS BAG FOR ME. THEY ARE QUITE VALUABLE.
CERTAINLY! I WILL KEEP IT SAFE FOR YOU UNTIL YOU RETURN!
THANK YOU MUHAMMAD (S)! YOU TRULY ARE AL-AMIN, THE TRUSTED ONE.
MY WOOL IS SO EXPENSIVE, CAN I LEAVE IT WITH MUHAMMAD (S) TOO? HAHA!

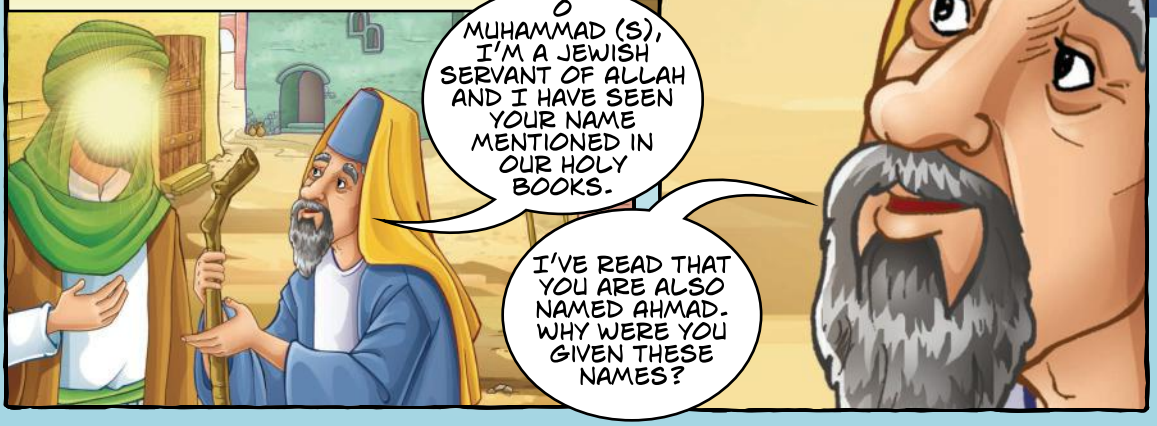
PROPHETHOOD

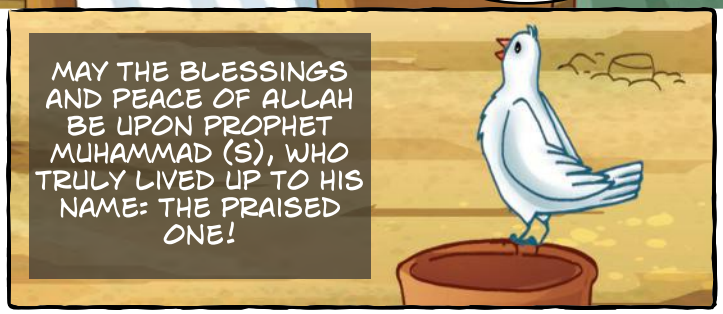


AFTER THE ASTONISHING MIRACLE OF THE RAIN, AND MANY OTHER MIRACLES OF THE NOBLE PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S), RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR HIM ONLY GREW!

FINALLY, AT THE AGE OF 40, THROUGH ANGEL JIBRAEEL, ALLAH ORDERED MUHAMMAD (S) TO ANNOUNCE TO PEOPLE THAT HE WAS SENT TO EARTH AS HIS PROPHET.

ONE DAY, PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S) WAS PASSING THROUGH THE STREETS OF MECCA.





Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 15, P. 257
Tārīkh Taḥlīlī Islām, Vol. 1, P. 245

2 IMAM ALI (A)

IF A PERSON WHO IS PRAYING KNEW TO WHAT EXTENT THEY WERE SURROUNDED BY ALLAH'S MERCY, THEY WOULD NEVER RAISE THEIR HEAD FROM SAJDAH (PROSTRATION).

Al-Ghurar ul-Ḥikam, P. 175

NAME
ALI

NICKNAME
ABUL HASAN

BIRTHDATE
RAJAB 13, 23 BH

BIRTHPLACE
MECCA

FATHER'S NAME
ABU TALIB

MOTHER'S NAME
FATIMAH DAUGHTER OF ASAD

IMAMATE
SAFAR 28, 11 AH AT AGE 33

SHAHADAH
RAMADHAN 21, 40 AH AT AGE 63

IMAM ALI'S (A) LIFE

He is born to Abu Talib and Fatimah b. Asad inside the Ka'bah.

600 AD

He moves in with the Prophet (s) and Lady Khadijah (a), who took care of him and raised him.

606 AD

Imam Ali (a) becomes the fourth caliph of the Muslims, after Abu Bakr, Umar, and Uthman.

35 AH

36 AH

Battle of Jamal (Camel)

37 AH

Battle of Siffin

He is the first person who believed in Islam, followed by Lady Khadijah (a).

610 AD

Laylat al-Mabeet: As the Prophet (s) migrates to Yathrib, Imam Ali (a) sleeps in his bed and saves his life.

0 AH

The Prophet (s) passes away. Imam Ali (a) takes care of his burial preparations and funeral. The Muslims decide to elect Abu Bakr as the first caliph.

11 AH

38 AH

Battle of Nahrawan

40 AH

He is struck in Masjid al-Kufa on Ramadhan 19th by Ibn Muljim and passes away two days later. He is buried in Najaf between Prophet Adam and Prophet Nuh.

IT WAS A PEACEFUL FRIDAY MORNING IN THE MONTH OF RAJAB AS THE SUN ROSE AND RADIATED ITS BRIGHT LIGHT UPON THE PALM TREES.

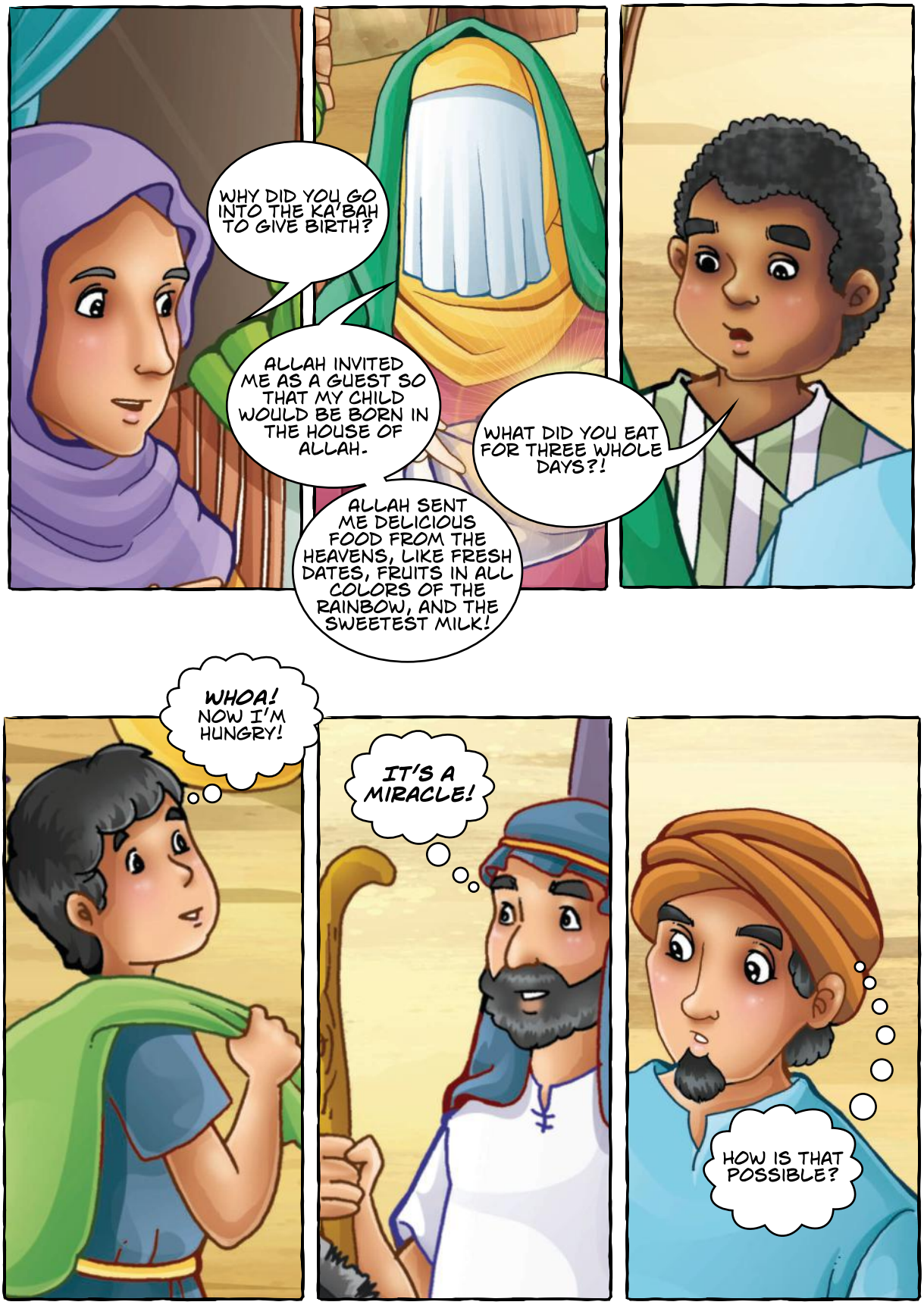
CRACK!!
THE WALL OF THE KA'BAH SPLIT TO REVEAL A SMALL OPENING, AND ONCE FATIMAH BINT ASAD ENTERED, THE WALL OF THE KA'BAH SEALED SHUT BEHIND HER.
HUH? WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
D...DID SHE JUST WALK RIGHT INTO THE KA'BAH?!
BUT WE HAVE THE KEYS!!
QUICK! TRY TO OPEN THE DOORS.
HERE, LET ME TRY!

---NO, LET ME. I HAVE THE KEYS!
WHY WON'T IT OPEN FOR US? WE ARE THE KEY HOLDERS.
THEY TRIED AND TRIED TO UNLOCK THE KA'BAH, BUT NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRIED, THE DOOR WOULD NOT OPEN.
LET ME TRY, I'M STRONGER THAN BOTH OF YOU!
SHE HAS TO BE A SPECIAL LADY TO HAVE BEEN INVITED AS A GUEST BY THE LORD OF THE KA'BAH HIMSELF!
BY GOD! THIS IS A MIRACLE!

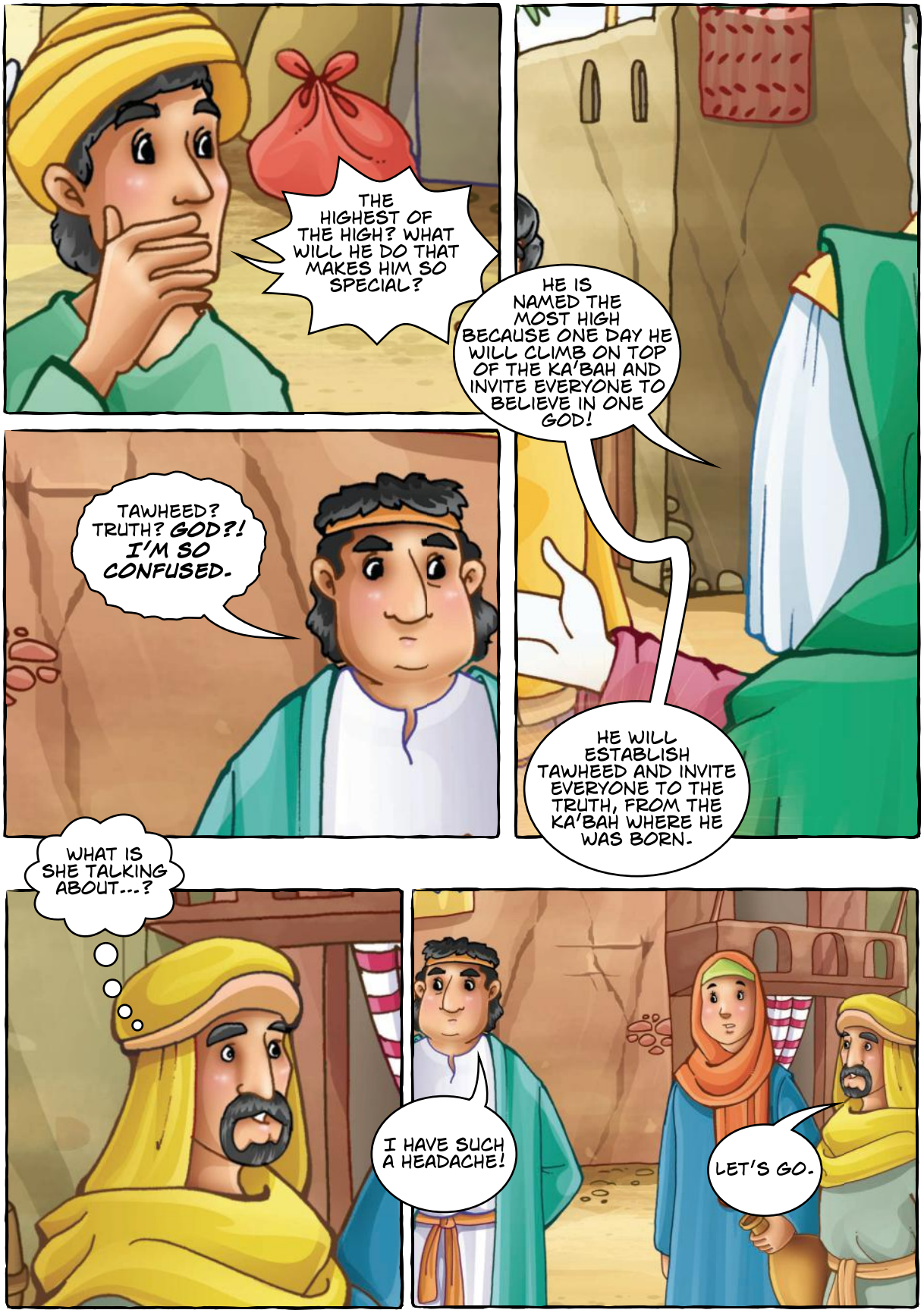
THE NEWS OF THE MIRACLE AT THE KA'BAH RAPIDLY TRAVELED ACROSS THE CITY OF MECCA.

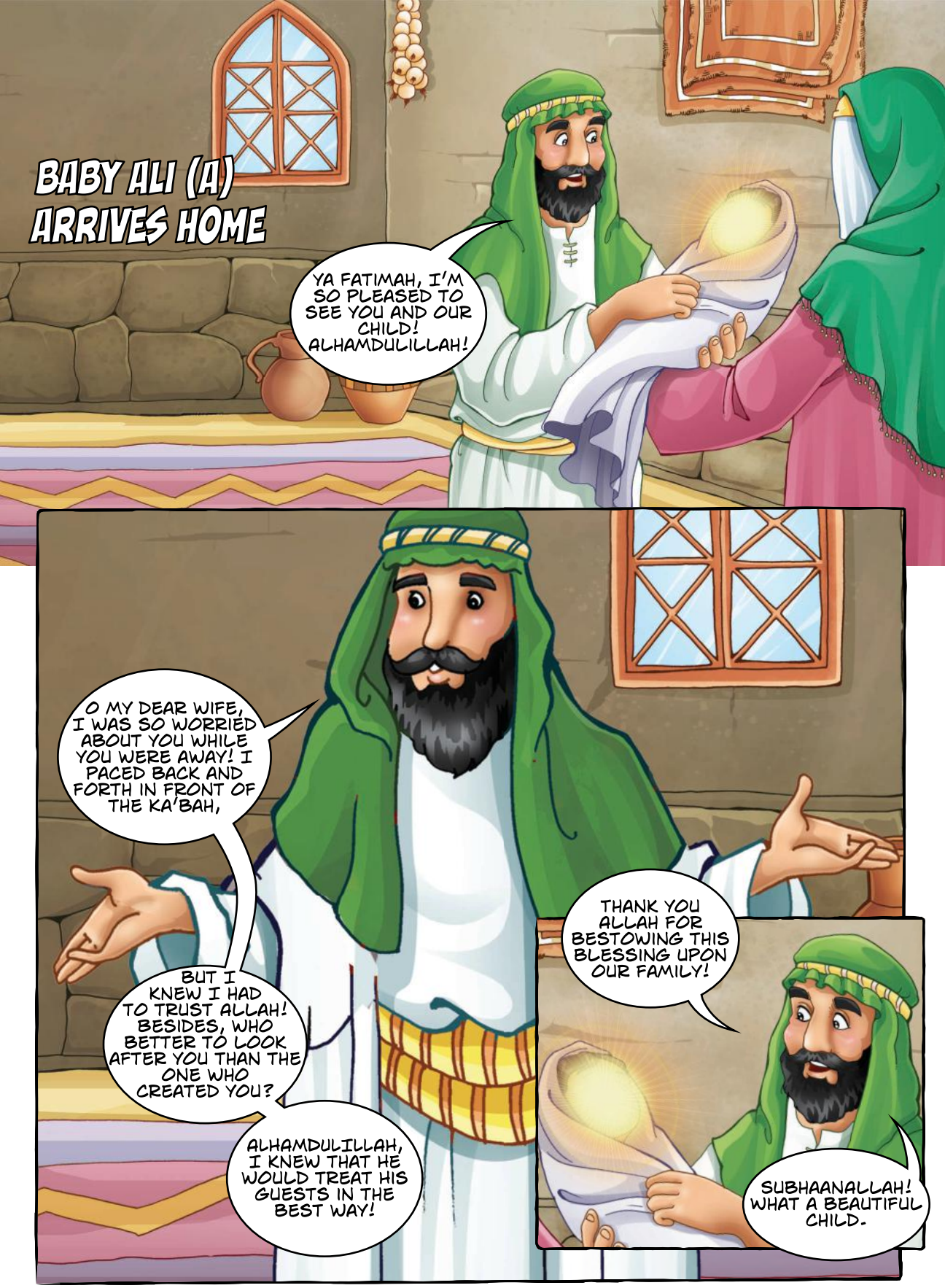
LITTLE DID THE TOWNSPEOPLE KNOW THAT THE BLESSED LADY AND CHILD WERE BEING LOOKED AFTER BY THE MOST NURTURING ALLAH!

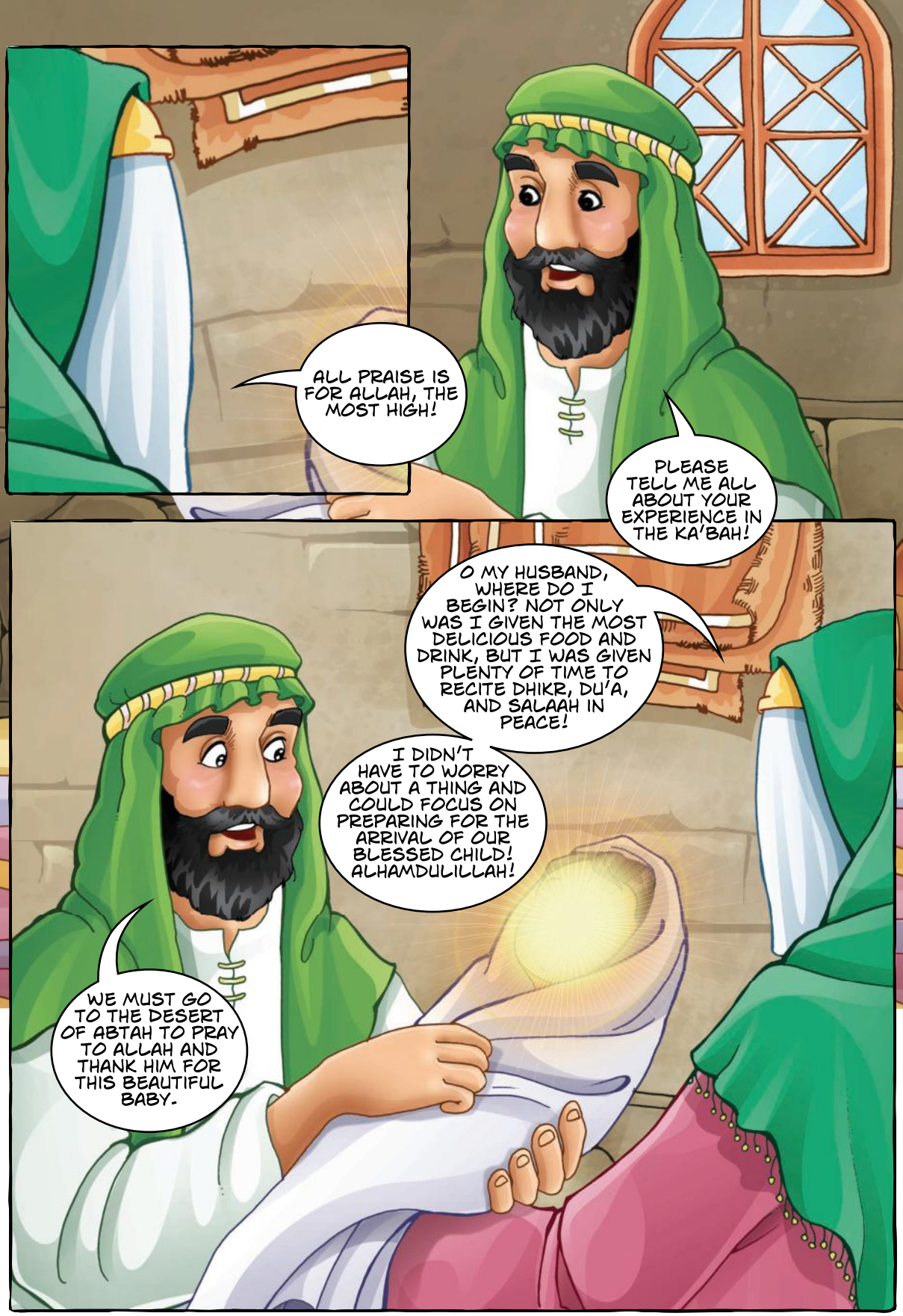
THREE DAYS LATER
FINALLY, FATIMAH BINT ASAD EMERGED FROM THE KA'BAH, CLUTCHING A BEAUTIFUL NEWBORN BABY IN HER ARMS.
SOON, A CROWD GATHERED AROUND HER, CURIOUS ABOUT HER TIME IN THE KA'BAH.
WOW!
SHE'S BACK!
HUH!!
IS THAT THE BABY?


WHY DID YOU GO INTO THE KA'BAH TO GIVE BIRTH?
ALLAH INVITED ME AS A GUEST SO THAT MY CHILD WOULD BE BORN IN THE HOUSE OF ALLAH.
ALLAH SENT ME DELICIOUS FOOD FROM THE HEAVENS, LIKE FRESH DATES, FRUITS IN ALL COLORS OF THE RAINBOW, AND THE SWEETEST MILK!
WHAT DID YOU EAT FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS?!
WHOA! NOW I'M HUNGRY!
IT'S A MIRACLE!
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?

THE CROWD CONTINUED TO GROW.
DOES THIS NEWBORN HAVE A NAME?
YES, ALLAH HIMSELF CHOSE THE NAME ALI (A) FOR THIS CHILD.
OH MY! HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?!
WHILE I WAS IN THE KA'BAH, AN ANGEL CAME FROM THE HEAVENS AND SAID TO ME, "YA FATIMAH, NAME THIS CHILD ALI (A).
THIS IS FROM ONE OF ALLAH'S OWN NAMES, AL-ALI AL- A'LAA, THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH."


THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH? WHAT WILL HE DO THAT MAKES HIM SO SPECIAL?
HE IS NAMED THE MOST HIGH BECAUSE ONE DAY HE WILL CLIMB ON TOP OF THE KA'BAH AND INVITE EVERYONE TO BELIEVE IN ONE GOD!
TAWHEED? TRUTH? GOD?! I'M SO CONFUSED.
HE WILL ESTABLISH TAWHEED AND INVITE EVERYONE TO THE TRUTH, FROM THE KA'BAH WHERE HE WAS BORN.
WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT...?
I HAVE SUCH A HEADACHE!
LET'S GO.

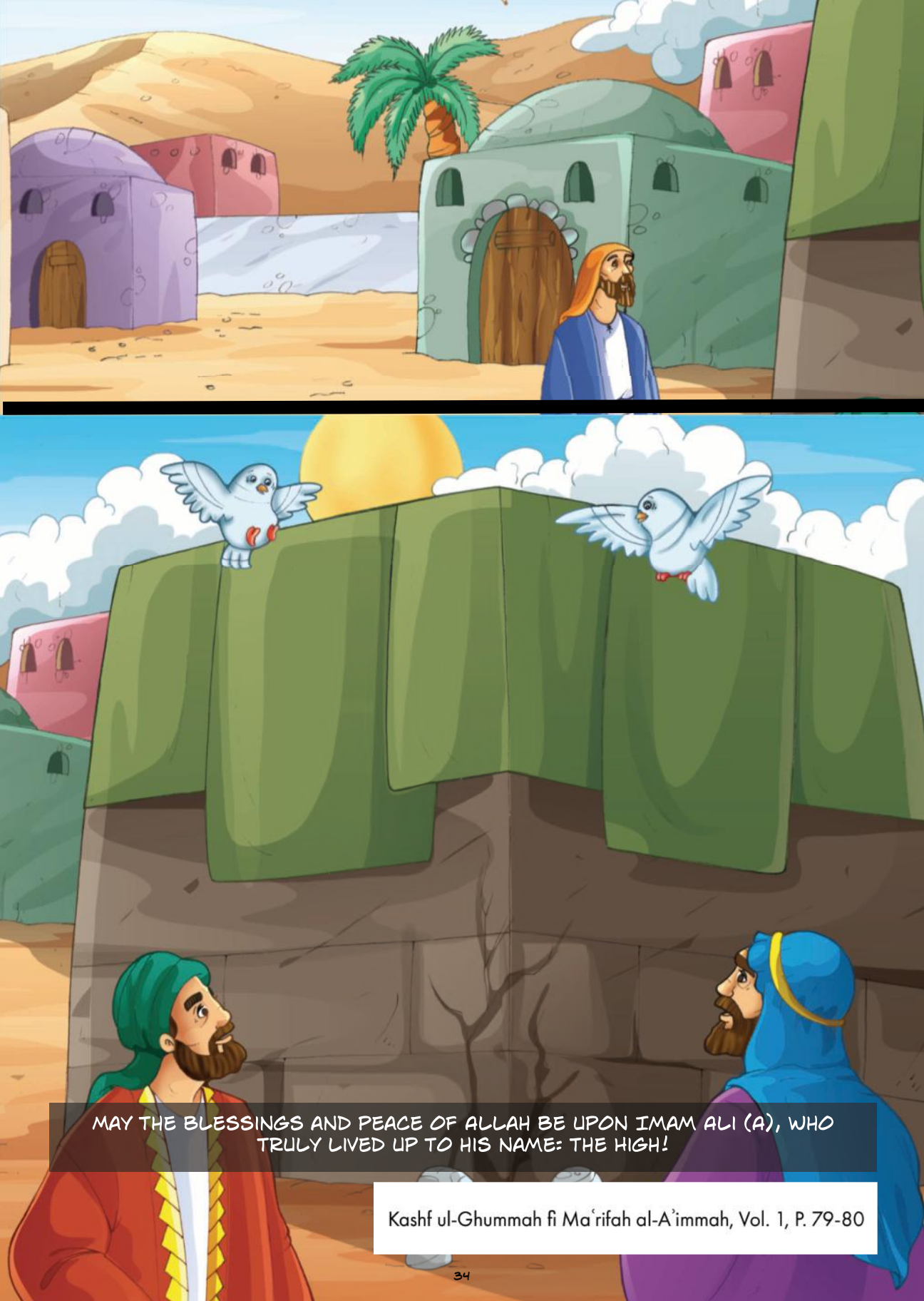

BABY ALI (A) ARRIVES HOME
YA FATIMAH, I'M SO PLEASED TO SEE YOU AND OUR CHILD! ALHAMDULILLAH!
O MY DEAR WIFE, I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU WHILE YOU WERE AWAY! I PACED BACK AND FORTH IN FRONT OF THE KA'BAH,
BUT I KNEW I HAD TO TRUST ALLAH! BESIDES, WHO BETTER TO LOOK AFTER YOU THAN THE ONE WHO CREATED YOU?
ALHAMDULILLAH, I KNEW THAT HE WOULD TREAT HIS GUESTS IN THE BEST WAY!
THANK YOU ALLAH FOR BESTOWING THIS BLESSING UPON OUR FAMILY!
SUBHAANALLAH! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL CHILD.


ALL PRAISE IS FOR ALLAH, THE MOST HIGH!
PLEASE TELL ME ALL ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE KA'BAH!
O MY HUSBAND, WHERE DO I BEGIN? NOT ONLY WAS I GIVEN THE MOST DELICIOUS FOOD AND DRINK, BUT I WAS GIVEN PLENTY OF TIME TO RECITE DHIKR, DU'A, AND SALAAH IN PEACE!
I DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT A THING AND COULD FOCUS ON PREPARING FOR THE ARRIVAL OF OUR BLESSED CHILD! ALHAMDULILLAH!
WE MUST GO TO THE DESERT OF ABTAH TO PRAY TO ALLAH AND THANK HIM FOR THIS BEAUTIFUL BABY.

ABU TALIB AND HIS WIFE SET OFF TOWARD THE DESERT WITH THE BLESSED BABY ALI (A). THEY WERE IN SEARCH OF AN OPEN SPACE WHERE THEY COULD PRAY, THANK ALLAH, AND REQUEST SOME ANSWERS! FATIMAH PRAYED FOR A LONG LIFE FOR HER CHILD. ABU TALIB PRYAYED FOR RAIN TO ENRICH THE BARREN LAND AND ASKED ALLAH TO TELL HIM THE MEANING OF HIS SON'S NAME.

ALHAMDULILLAH, LOOK AT HOW QUICKLY THE STORM CAME AND THEN LEFT! ALLAH IS THE ALL POWERFUL INDEED.
THIS IS ALL UNKNOWN TO ME. COME, FATIMAH, LET'S GO HOME.
WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND, MY SON?
WE HAVE BLESSED YOU WITH A PURE AND EXTRAORDINARY CHILD. HIS NAME IS ALI (A), THE MOST HIGH. THIS NAME HAS BEEN CHOSEN FOR HIM BECAUSE HE HAS AN ELEVATED POSITION IN THE EYES OF ALLAH.
SUBHAANALLAH!
THIS CHILD IS A TRUE BLESSING UPON HUMANKIND. THANK YOU, ALLAH FOR THIS GREAT HONOR!

AS THE SUN ROSE THE FOLLOWING MORNING AND PEOPLE GATHERED AROUND THE KA'BAH, THEY COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE HOW THE CRACK IN THE KA'BAH SEEMED TO BE SMILING.


MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM ALI (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE HIGH!
Kashf ul-Ghummah fi Ma'rifah al-A'immah, Vol. 1, P. 79-80

3 SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A)

ALLAH HAS MADE JUSTICE AND EQUITY MANDATORY (ON US) BECAUSE IT IS A SOURCE OF EASE FOR OUR HEARTS!

'Ilal Asharā'i, P. 247, Number:2

NAME
FATIMAH

NICKNAME
AZ-ZAHRA , AS-SIDDIQAH

BIRTHDATE
JUMADA THANI 20, 7 BH

BIRTHPLACE
MECCA

FATHER'S NAME
PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S)

MOTHER'S NAME
LADY KHADIJAH (A)

SHAHADAH
JUMADA AWWAL 13 OR
JUMADA THANI 3 11 AH

SAYYIDAH FATIMAH'S (A) LIFE

She is born to the Prophet (s) and Lady Khadijah (a).

614 AD

Lady Khadijah (a) passes away.

619 AD

She is escorted by Imam Ali (a) in the migration to Medina.

0 AH

She goes with her family to the event of Mubahalah, in the challenge against the Christians of Najran.

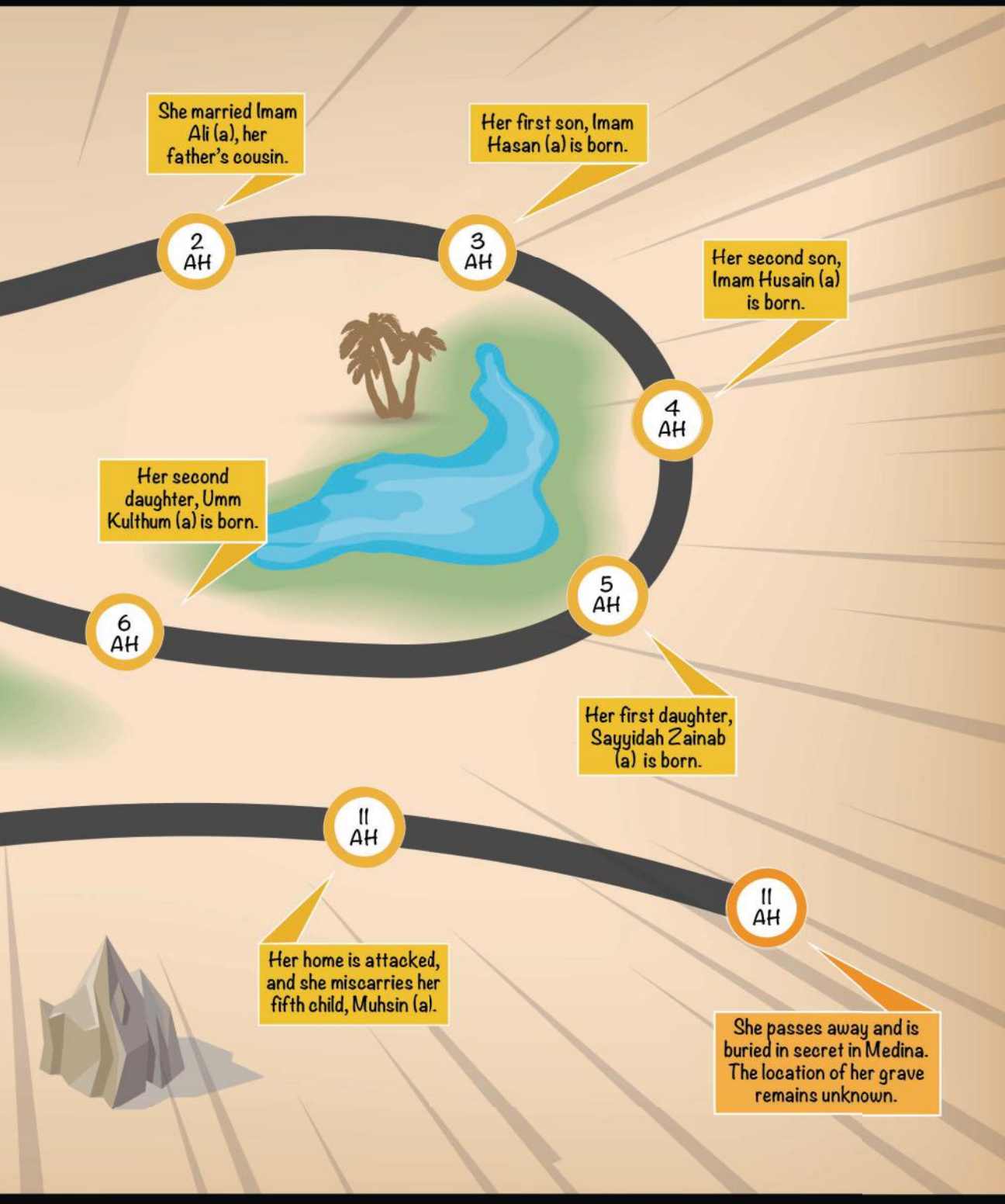
9 AH

11 AH

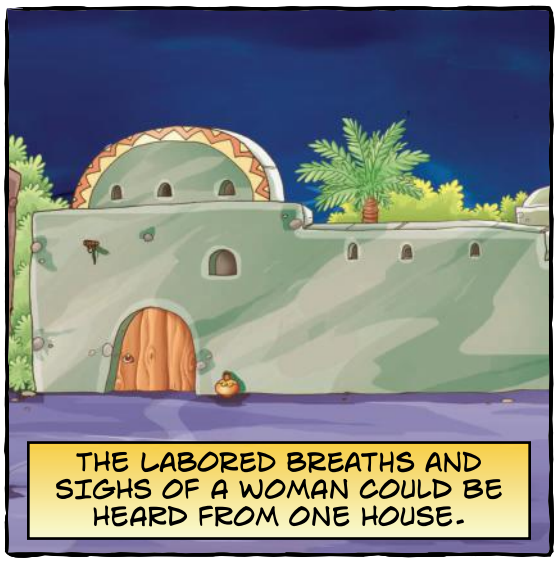
Her father, the Prophet (s), passes away. Imam Ali (a) builds a small house (Bayt al-Ahzan) outside of Medina where she mourns her father.

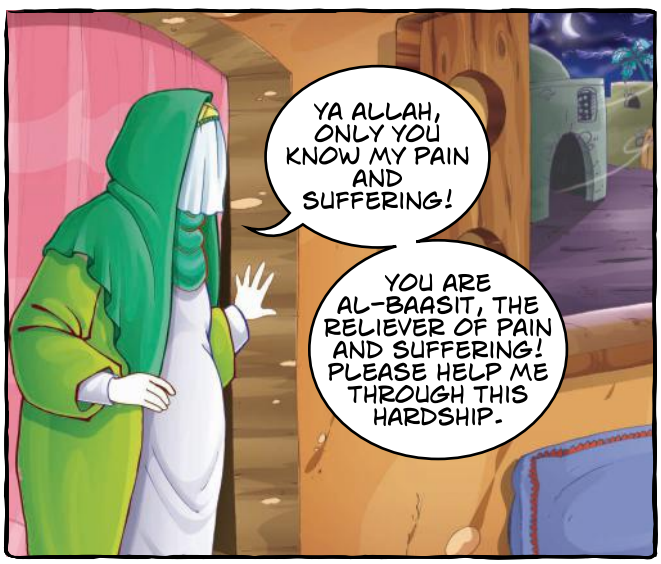
11 AH

She rightfully claims the land of Fadak and delivers the famous sermon of Fadak in Masjid an-Nabi.

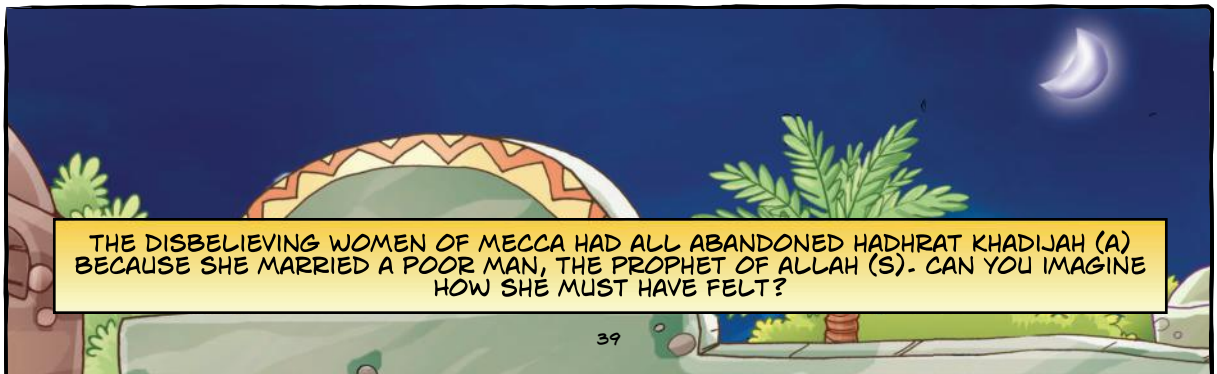

She married Imam Ali (a), her father's cousin.
2 AH
Her first son, Imam Hasan (a) is born.
3 AH
Her second son, Imam Husain (a) is born.
4 AH
Her second daughter, Umm Kulthum (a) is born.
6 AH
5 AH
Her first daughter, Sayyidah Zainab (a) is born.
11 AH
Her home is attacked, and she miscarries her fifth child, Muhsin (a).
11 AH
She passes away and is buried in secret in Medina. The location of her grave remains unknown.

IT WAS A SUMMER NIGHT IN THE CITY OF MECCA AS HOT AIR BILLOWED THROUGH THE QUIET STREETS OF THE CITY.

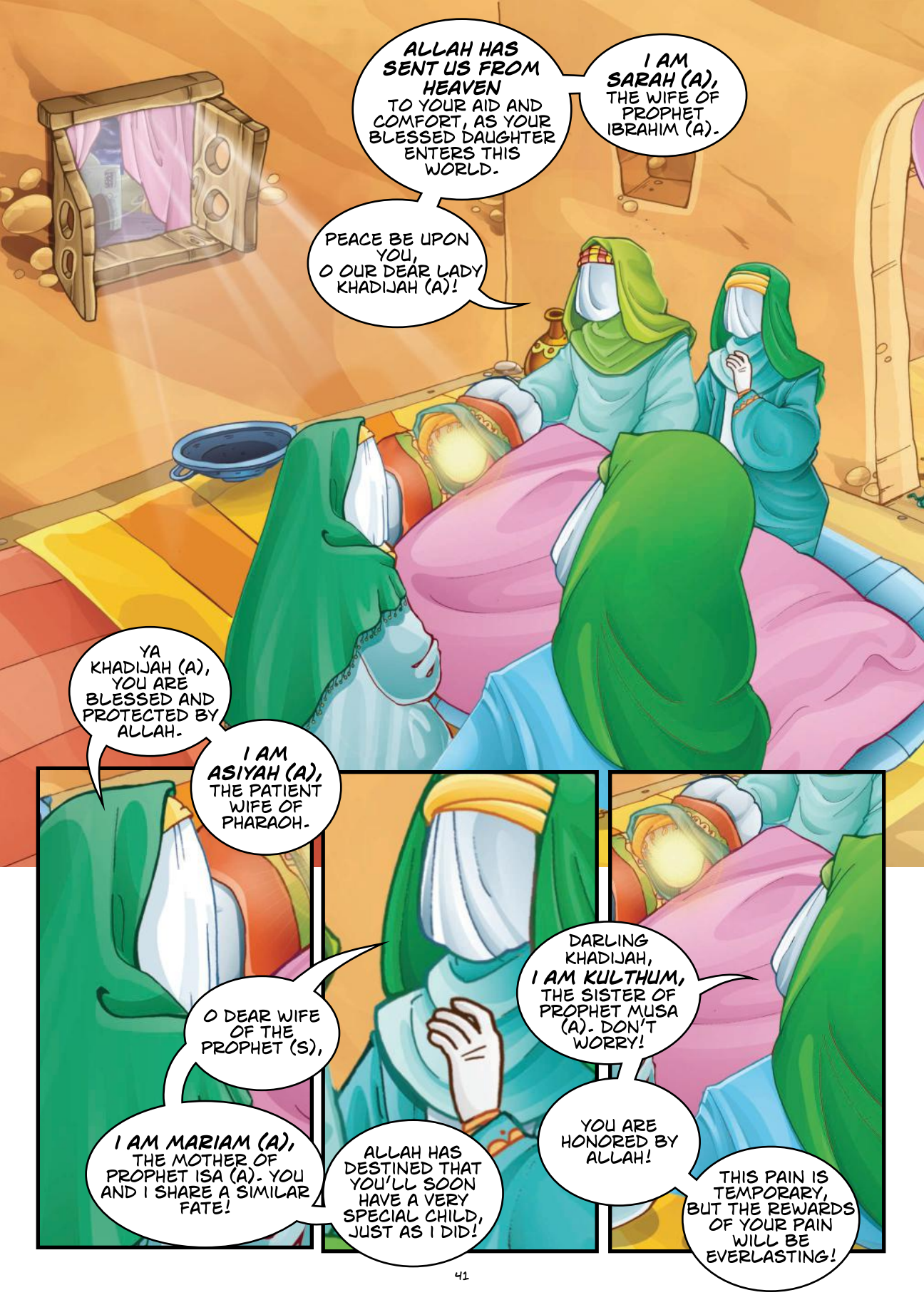

THE LABORED BREATHS AND SIGHS OF A WOMAN COULD BE HEARD FROM ONE HOUSE.

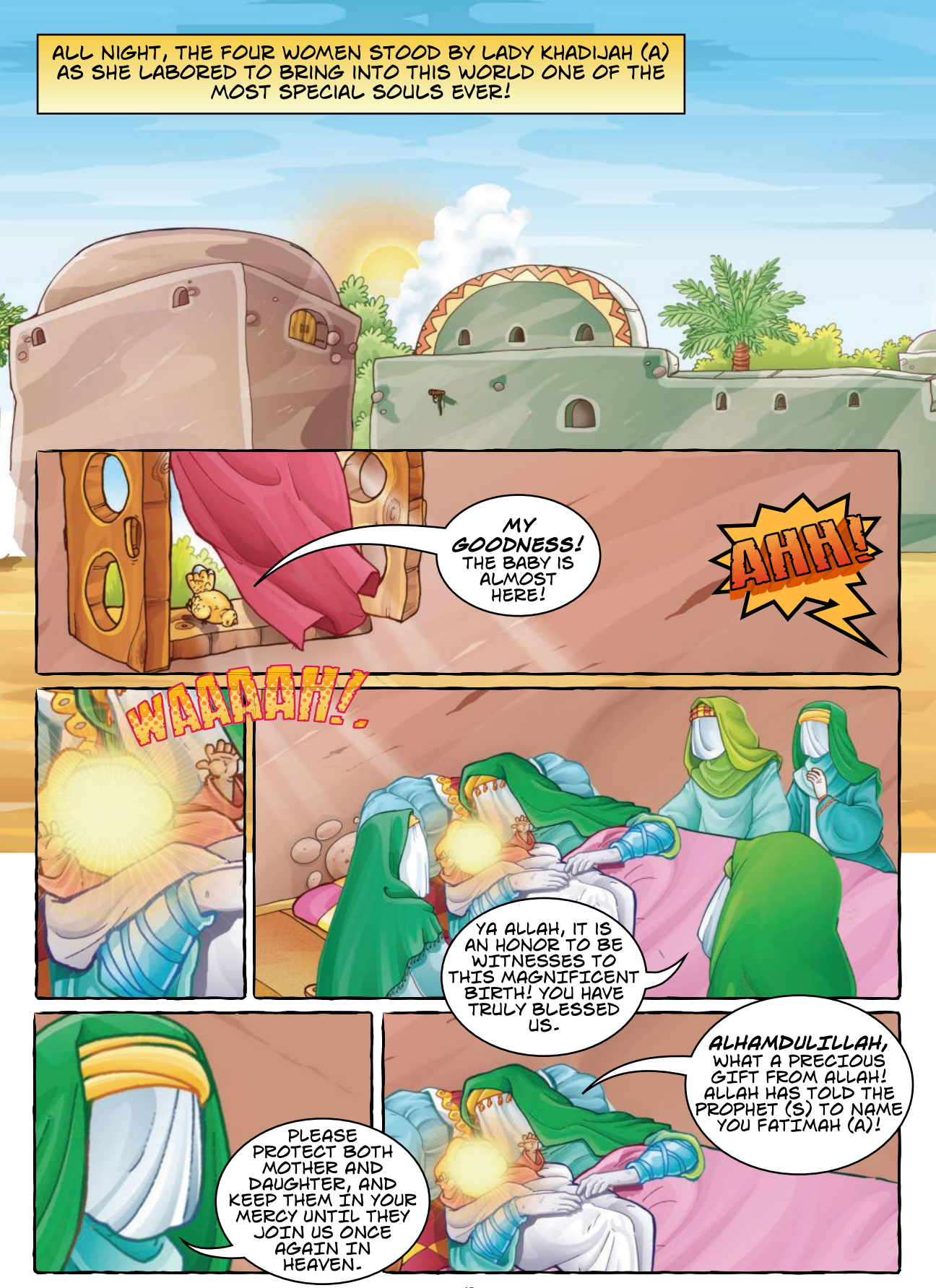

YA ALLAH, ONLY YOU KNOW MY PAIN AND SUFFERING!
YOU ARE AL-BAASIT, THE RELIEVER OF PAIN AND SUFFERING! PLEASE HELP ME THROUGH THIS HARDSHIP.

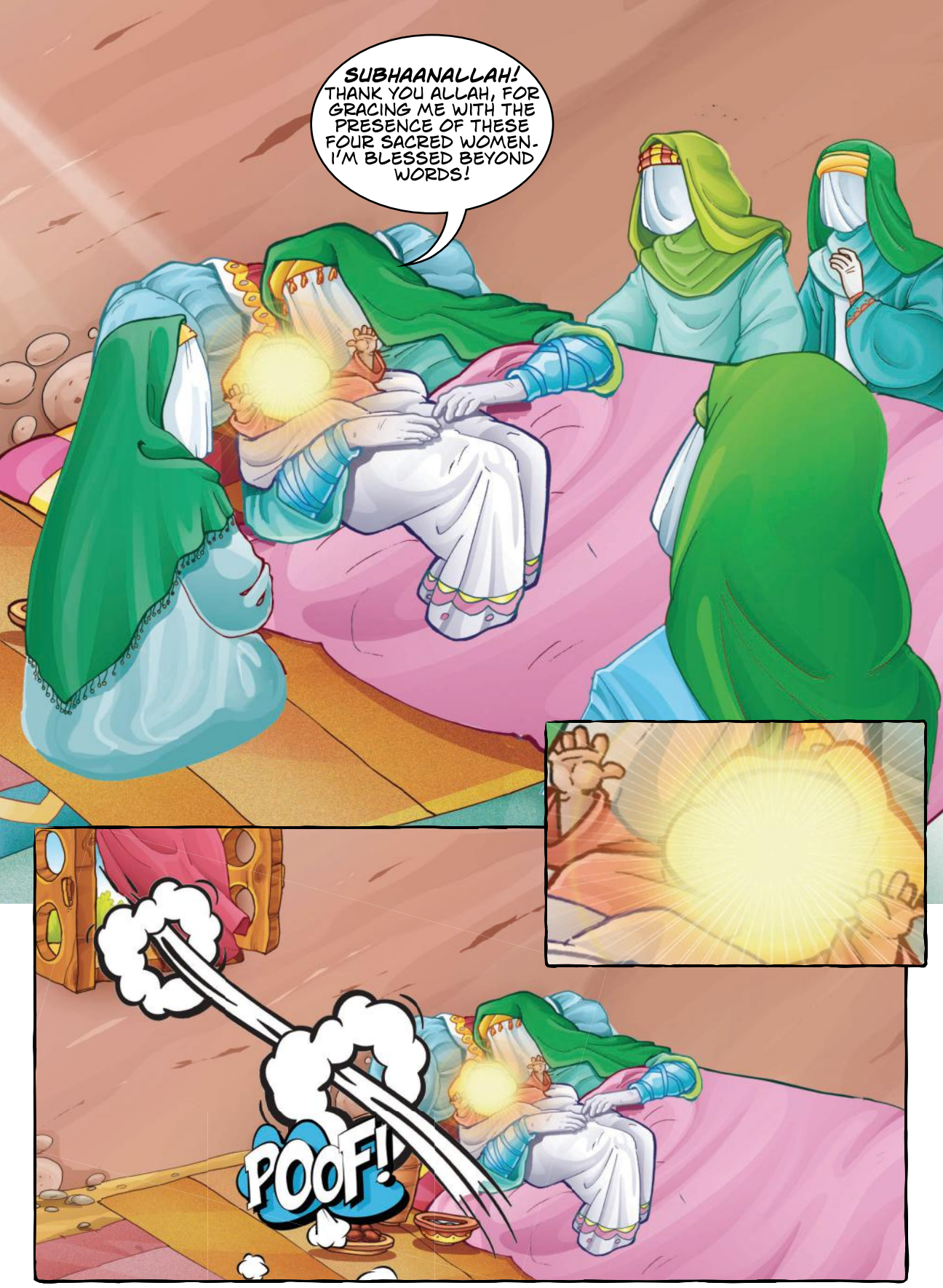
SUBHAANALLAHI, WALHAMDULILLAHI, WA LAA ILAAHA ILALLAAHU, WALLAHU AKBAR!

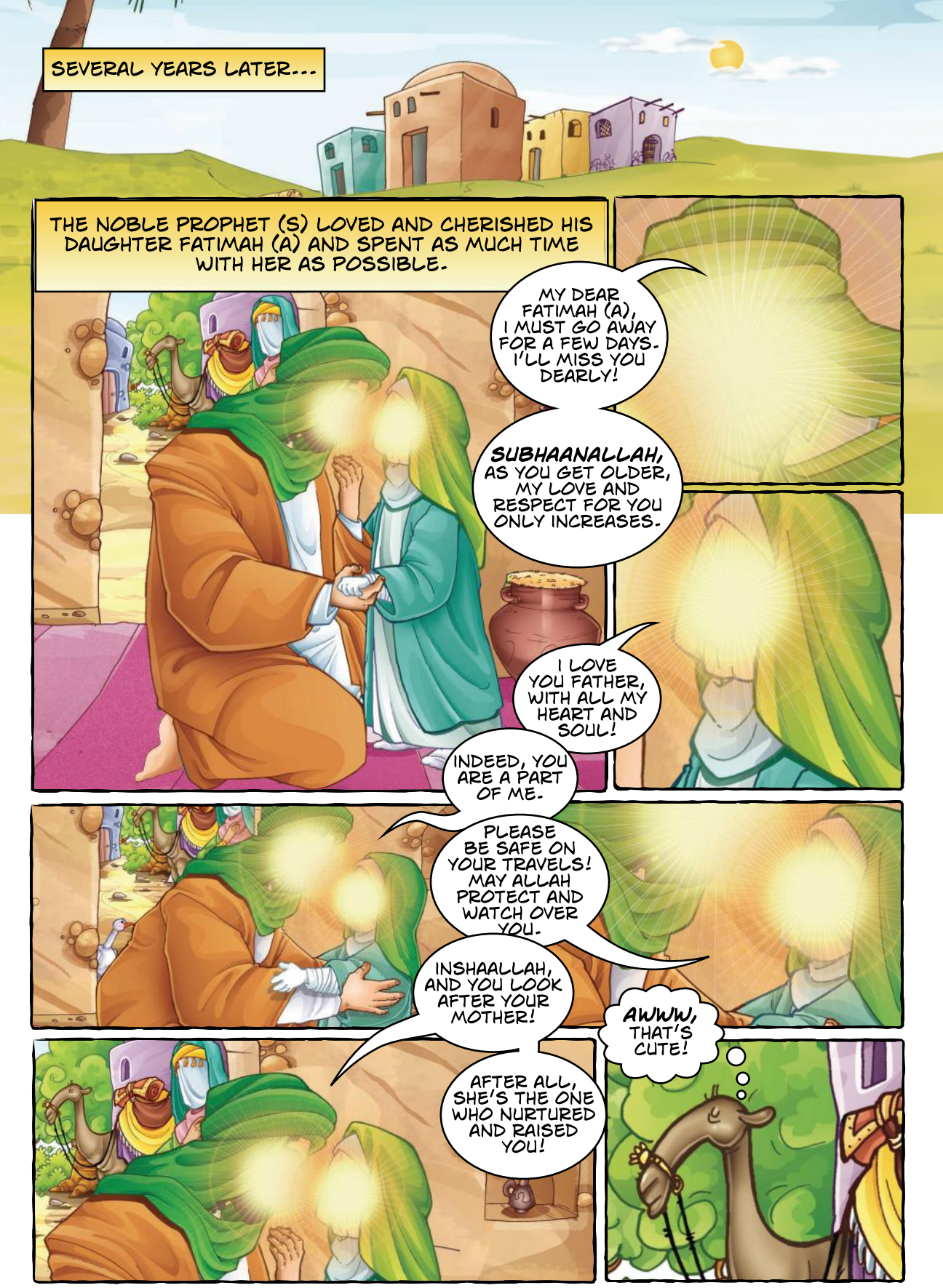

THE DISBELIEVING WOMEN OF MECCA HAD ALL ABANDONED HADHRAT KHADIJAH (A) BECAUSE SHE MARRIED A POOR MAN, THE PROPHET OF ALLAH (S). CAN YOU IMAGINE HOW SHE MUST HAVE FELT?

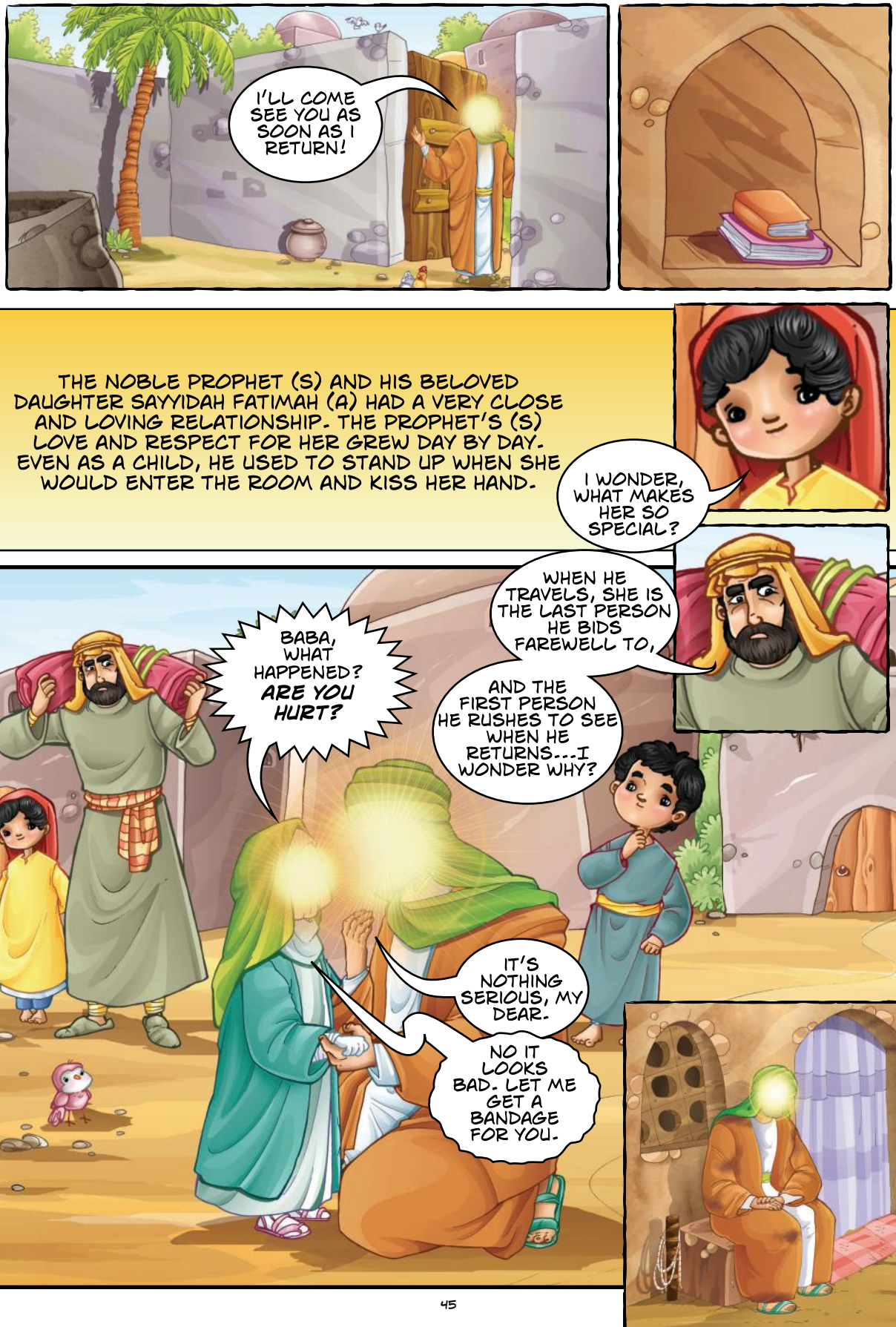
YA ALLAH, PLEASE HAVE MERCY UPON ME!
GASP
RUMBLE
CRACK!!
AT THAT EXACT MOMENT, THE SKIES OF MECCA SPLIT OPEN!


ALLAH HAS SENT US FROM HEAVEN TO YOUR AID AND COMFORT, AS YOUR BLESSED DAUGHTER ENTERS THIS WORLD.
I AM SARAH (A), THE WIFE OF PROPHET IBRAHIM (A).
PEACE BE UPON YOU, O OUR DEAR LADY KHADIJAH (A)!
YA KHADIJAH (A), YOU ARE BLESSED AND PROTECTED BY ALLAH.
I AM ASIYAH (A), THE PATIENT WIFE OF PHARAOH.
O DEAR WIFE OF THE PROPHET (S),
I AM MARIAM (A), THE MOTHER OF PROPHET ISA (A). YOU AND I SHARE A SIMILAR FATE!
ALLAH HAS DESTINED THAT YOU'LL SOON HAVE A VERY SPECIAL CHILD, JUST AS I DID!
DARLING KHADIJAH, I AM KULTHUM, THE SISTER OF PROPHET MUSA (A). DON'T WORRY!
YOU ARE HONORED BY ALLAH!
THIS PAIN IS TEMPORARY, BUT THE REWARDS OF YOUR PAIN WILL BE EVERLASTING!


ALL NIGHT, THE FOUR WOMEN STOOD BY LADY KHADIJAH (A) AS SHE LABORED TO BRING INTO THIS WORLD ONE OF THE MOST SPECIAL SOULS EVER!
MY GOODNESS! THE BABY IS ALMOST HERE!
AHH!
WAAAAH!
YA ALLAH, IT IS AN HONOR TO BE WITNESSES TO THIS MAGNIFICENT BIRTH! YOU HAVE TRULY BLESSED US.
ALHAMDULILLAH, WHAT A PRECIOUS GIFT FROM ALLAH! ALLAH HAS TOLD THE PROPHET (S) TO NAME YOU FATIMAH (A)!
PLEASE PROTECT BOTH MOTHER AND DAUGHTER, AND KEEP THEM IN YOUR MERCY UNTIL THEY JOIN US ONCE AGAIN IN HEAVEN.

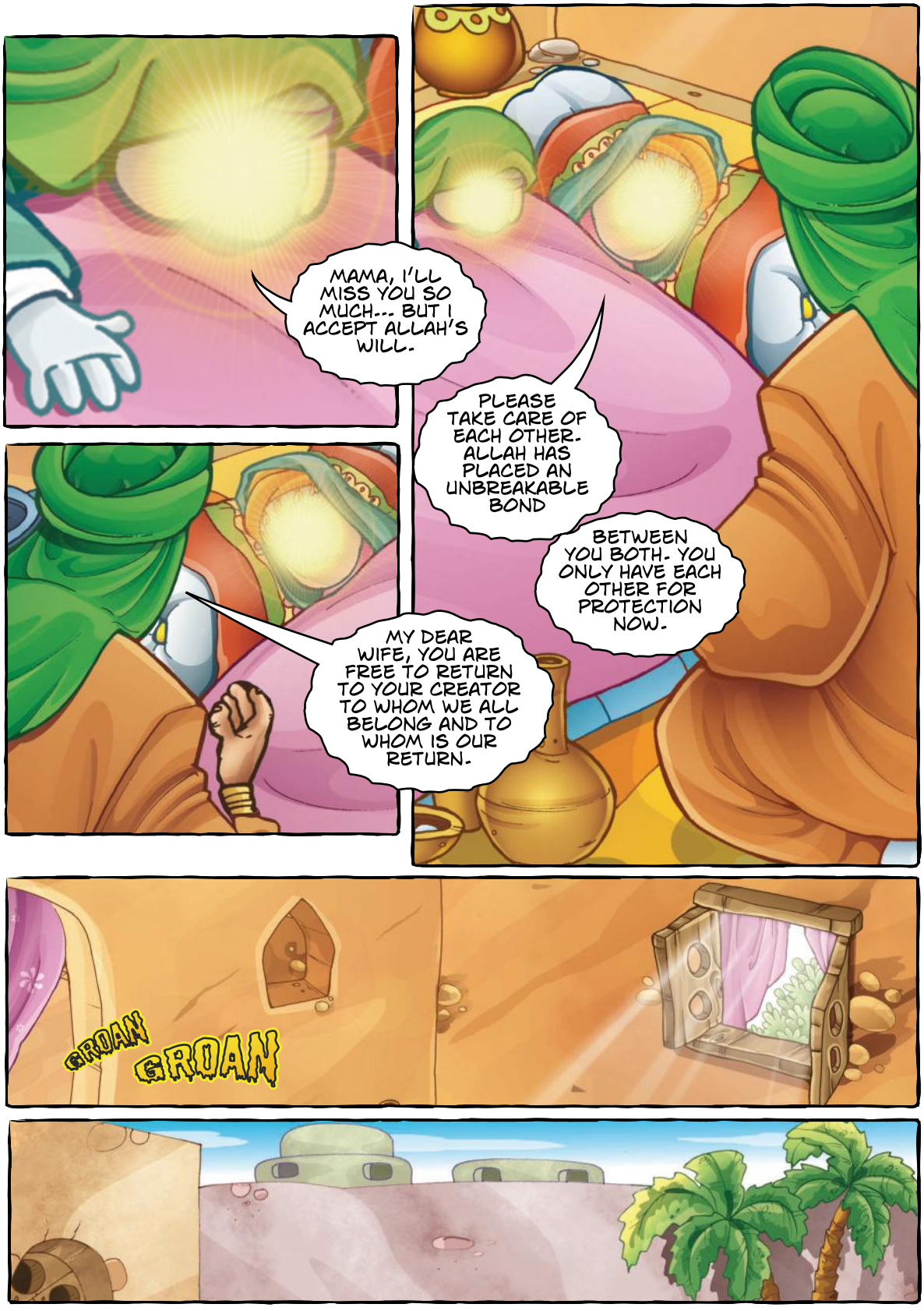

SUBHAANALLAH! THANK YOU ALLAH, FOR GRACING ME WITH THE PRESENCE OF THESE FOUR SACRED WOMEN. I'M BLESSED BEYOND WORDS!
POOF!


SEVERAL YEARS LATER...
THE NOBLE PROPHET (S) LOVED AND CHERISHED HIS DAUGHTER FATIMAH (A) AND SPENT AS MUCH TIME WITH HER AS POSSIBLE.
MY DEAR FATIMAH (A), I MUST GO AWAY FOR A FEW DAYS. I'LL MISS YOU DEARLY!
SUBHAANALLAH, AS YOU GET OLDER, MY LOVE AND RESPECT FOR YOU ONLY INCREASES.
I LOVE YOU FATHER, WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL!
INDEED, YOU ARE A PART OF ME.
PLEASE BE SAFE ON YOUR TRAVELS! MAY ALLAH PROTECT AND WATCH OVER YOU.
INSHAALLAH, AND YOU LOOK AFTER YOUR MOTHER!
AFTER ALL, SHE'S THE ONE WHO NURTURED AND RAISED YOU!
AWWW, THAT'S CUTE!

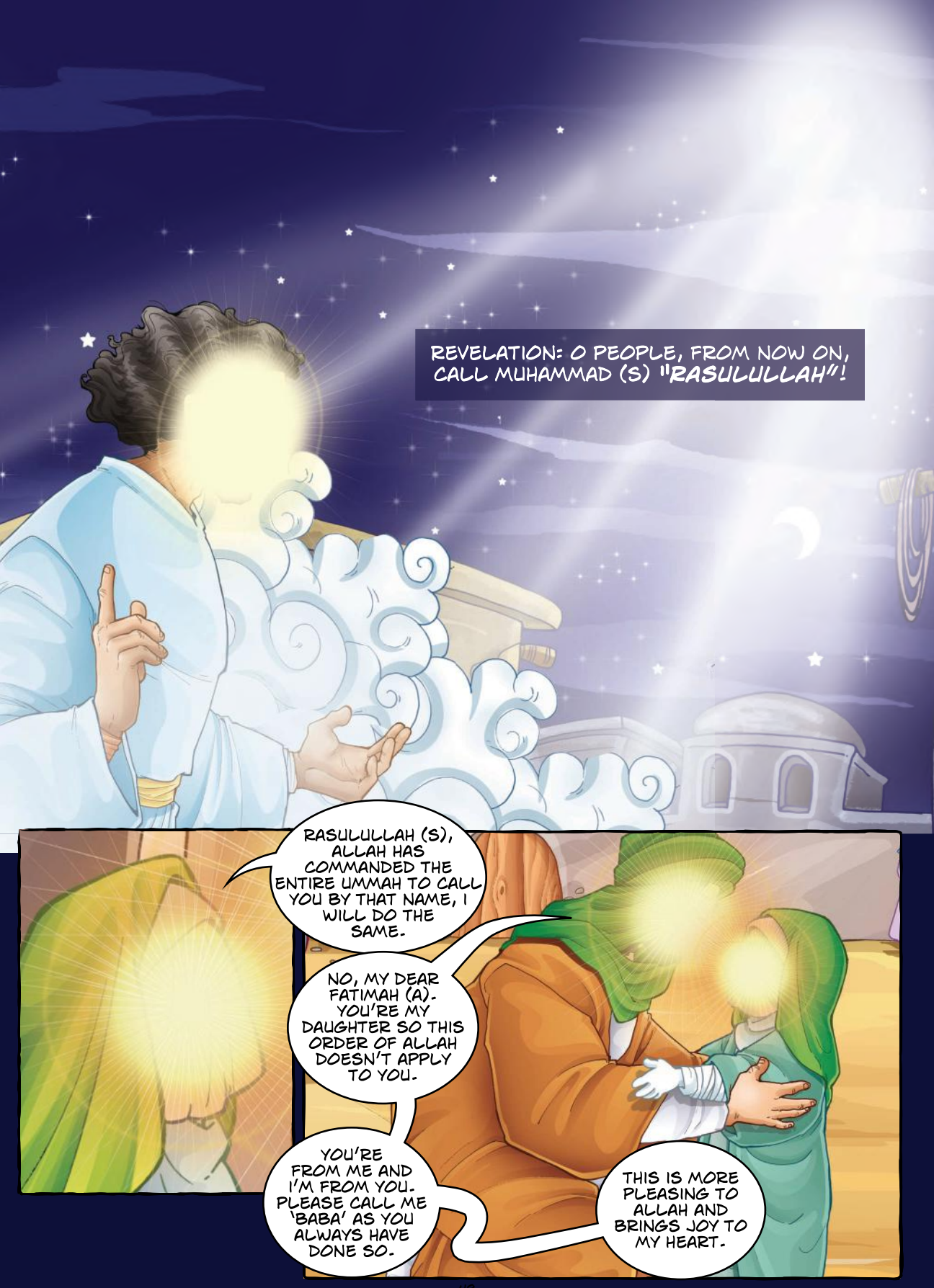

I'LL COME SEE YOU AS SOON AS I RETURN!
THE NOBLE PROPHET (S) AND HIS BELOVED DAUGHTER SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A) HAD A VERY CLOSE AND LOVING RELATIONSHIP. THE PROPHET'S (S) LOVE AND RESPECT FOR HER GREW DAY BY DAY. EVEN AS A CHILD, HE USED TO STAND UP WHEN SHE WOULD ENTER THE ROOM AND KISS HER HAND.
I WONDER, WHAT MAKES HER SO SPECIAL?
WHEN HE TRAVELS, SHE IS THE LAST PERSON HE BIDS FAREWELL TO,
AND THE FIRST PERSON HE RUSHES TO SEE WHEN HE RETURNS...I WONDER WHY?
BABA, WHAT HAPPENED? ARE YOU HURT?
IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS, MY DEAR.
NO IT LOOKS BAD. LET ME GET A BANDAGE FOR YOU.

YOU TAKE SUCH GOOD CARE OF ME. WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT YOU, MY DAUGHTER?
BABA, I PROMISE I'LL ALWAYS BE HERE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU!
AND THIS IS WHY YOU'RE UMM ABIHA, THE MOTHER OF YOUR FATHER!
CLUCK.. CLUCK!
MASHAALLAH! SEE HOW SHE TAKES CARE OF HER FATHER! THAT REMINDS ME...
YOU TWO NEED TO CLEAN YOUR NESTS!
UH OH... GOTTA GO! I SUDDENLY HAVE HOMEWORK...
...ME TOO!

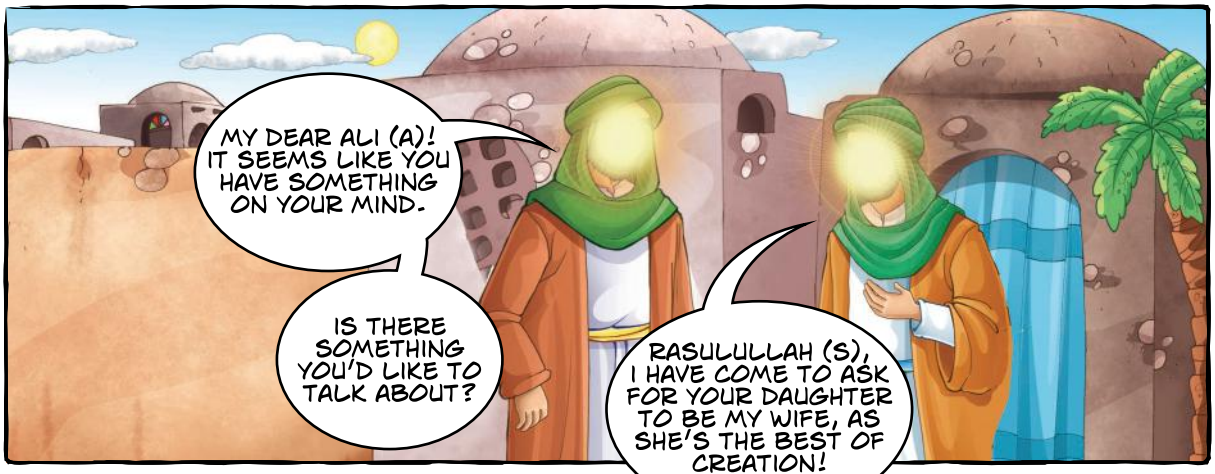
...YEARS LATER, HADHRAT KHADIJAH (A) FELL VERY ILL.
GROAN
OH PROPHET, ALLAH IS CALLING ME BACK TO HIM. I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF FATIMAH AFTER I'M GONE.
MAMA, PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME. I LOVE YOU SO MUCH.
MY DEAR DAUGHTER, I'LL NEVER LEAVE YOU! EVEN WHEN I RETURN TO ALLAH, I'LL BE CLOSE TO YOU.
I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL.
LADY KHADIJAH (A), YOU HAVE BEEN A BLESSING TO ME AND THE ENTIRE UMMAH.
GROAN

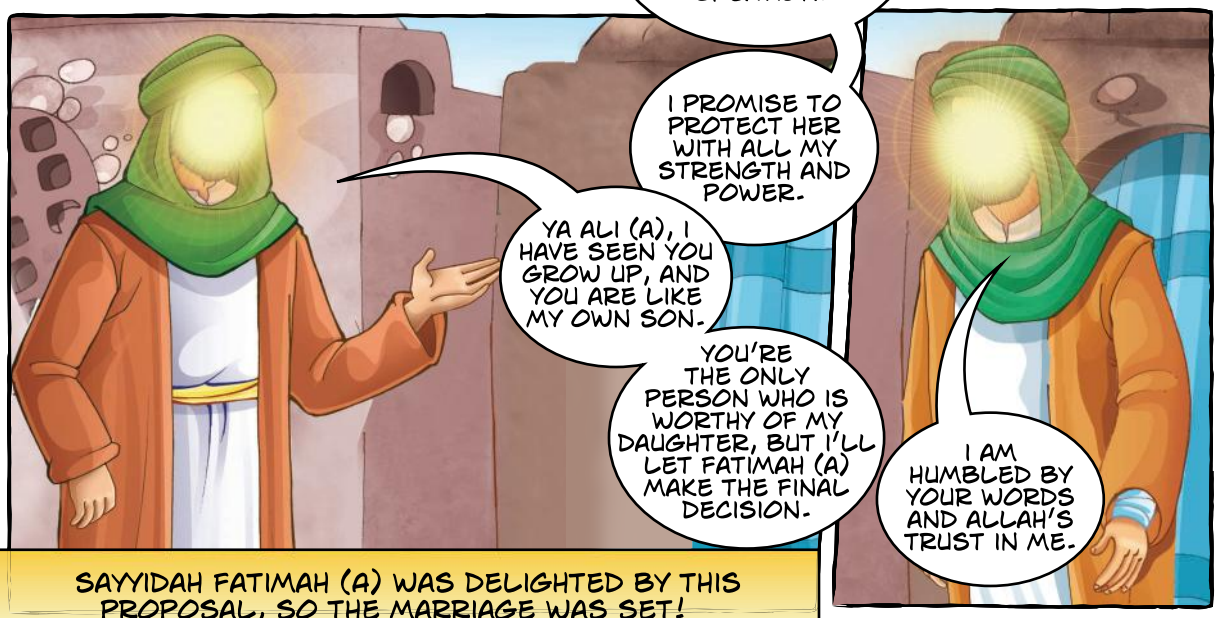


NEWS OF HADHRAT KHADIJAH'S (A) DEATH SPREAD ACROSS THE CITY.

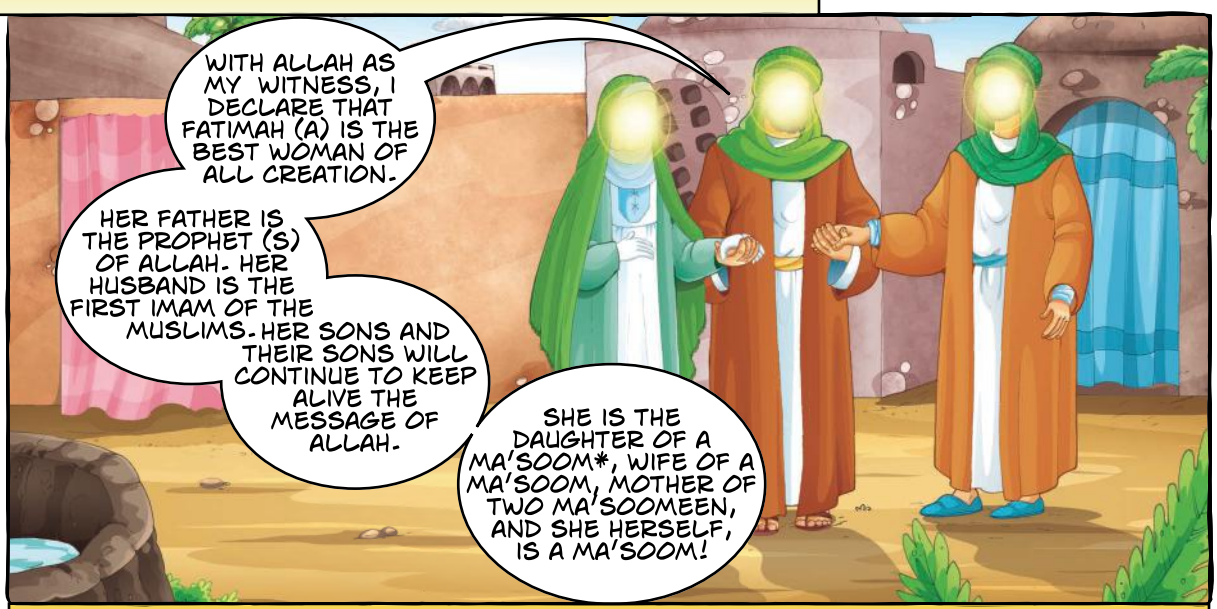

REVELATION: O PEOPLE, FROM NOW ON, CALL MUHAMMAD (S) "RASULULLAH"!
RASULULLAH (S), ALLAH HAS COMMANDED THE ENTIRE UMMAH TO CALL YOU BY THAT NAME, I WILL DO THE SAME.
NO, MY DEAR FATIMAH (A). YOU'RE MY DAUGHTER SO THIS ORDER OF ALLAH DOESN'T APPLY TO YOU.
YOU'RE FROM ME AND I'M FROM YOU. PLEASE CALL ME 'BABA' AS YOU ALWAYS HAVE DONE SO.
THIS IS MORE PLEASING TO ALLAH AND BRINGS JOY TO MY HEART.

SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A) GREW INTO A PIOUS AND GOD-CONSCIOUS YOUNG WOMAN.
MASHAALLAH, FATIMAH (A) HAS SO MANY RICH MEN WHO WISH TO MARRY HER, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE SHE HASN'T AGREED TO ANY OF THEM.
REALLY? WHY DOESN'T FATIMAH'S (A) FATHER WANT HER TO MARRY A RICH MAN?
RASULULLAH (S) ISN'T INTERESTED IN RICHES AND WEALTH. NEITHER IS FATIMAH (A). THEY'RE WAITING FOR SOMETHING MUCH BETTER.
LIKE WHAT?
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE...

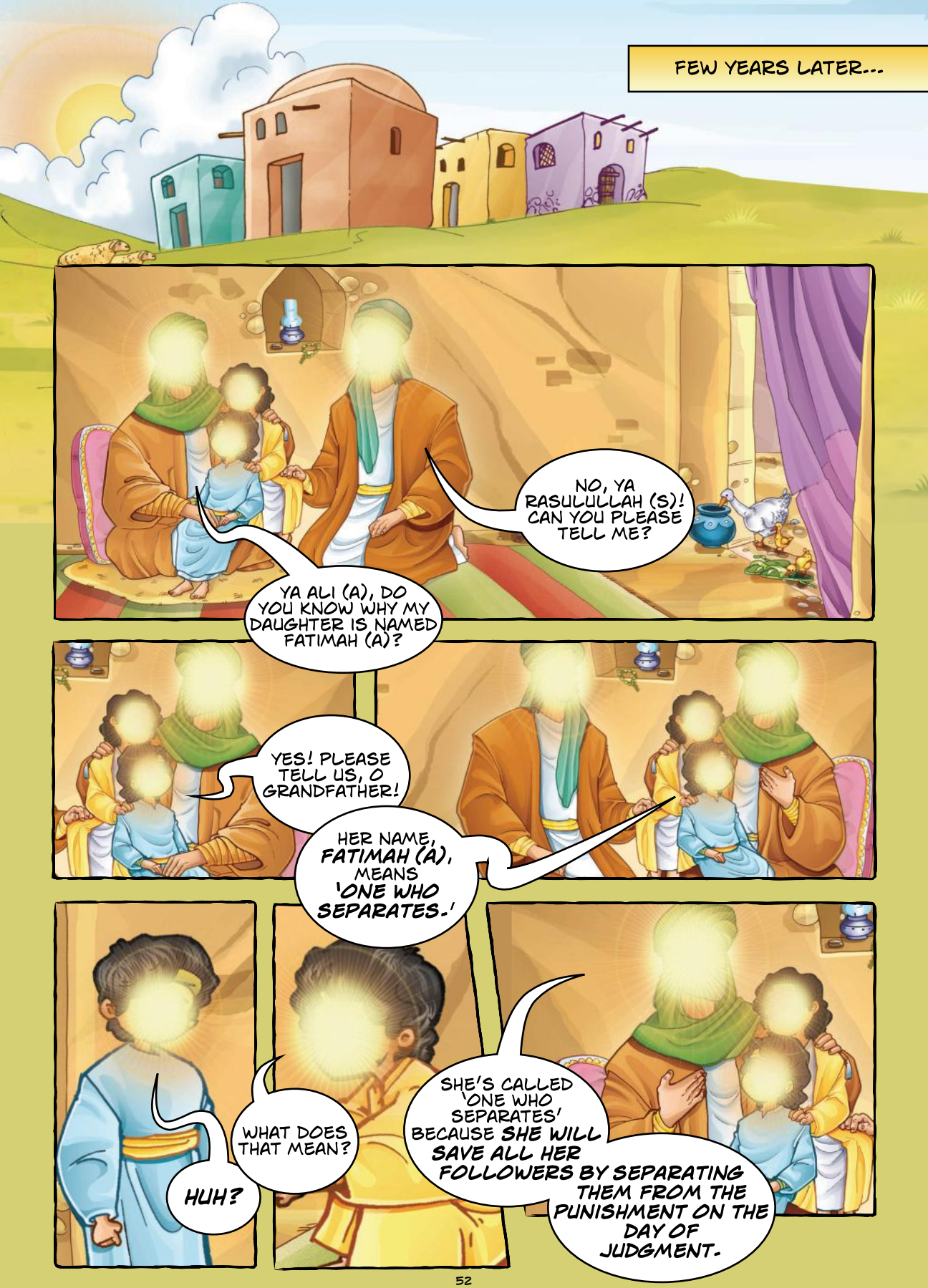


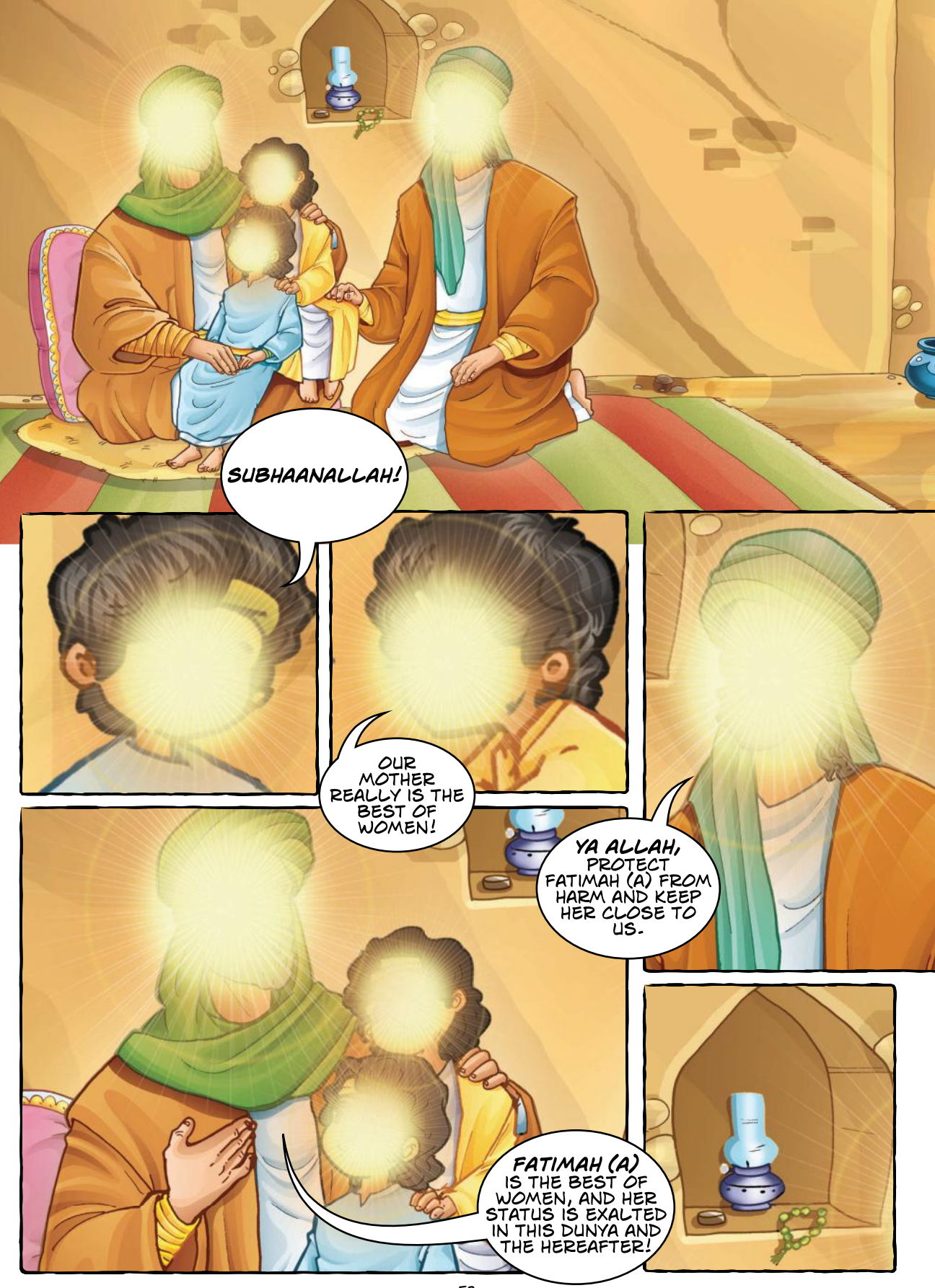


SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A) WAS DELIGHTED BY THIS PROPOSAL, SO THE MARRIAGE WAS SET!



* MA'SOOM: SOMEONE WHO IS PROTECTED BY ALLAH AND CHOOSES NOT TO COMMIT ANY SINS.


FEW YEARS LATER...
NO, YA RASULULLAH (S)! CAN YOU PLEASE TELL ME?
YA ALI (A), DO YOU KNOW WHY MY DAUGHTER IS NAMED FATIMAH (A)?
YES! PLEASE TELL US, O GRANDFATHER!
HER NAME, FATIMAH (A), MEANS 'ONE WHO SEPARATES.'
HUH?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
SHE'S CALLED 'ONE WHO SEPARATES' BECAUSE SHE WILL SAVE ALL HER FOLLOWERS BY SEPARATING THEM FROM THE PUNISHMENT ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.


SUBHAANALLAH!
OUR MOTHER REALLY IS THE BEST OF WOMEN!
YA ALLAH, PROTECT FATIMAH (A) FROM HARM AND KEEP HER CLOSE TO US.
FATIMAH (A) IS THE BEST OF WOMEN, AND HER STATUS IS EXALTED IN THIS DUNYA AND THE HEREAFTER!

YA ALLAH, FOR THE SAKE OF SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A), PLEASE SEPARATE US FROM THE PUNISHMENT OF THE HEREAFTER. MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HER NAME: THE ONE WHO SEPARATES (HER FOLLOWERS FROM THE HELLFIRE)!

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 43, P. 211
Manāqib ibn al-Ghazālī, P. 364

4 IMAM HASAN (A)

THE BEST THING OF ALL GOOD CHARACTERISTICS IS A POSITIVE PERSONALITY.

Kashful Ghummah, Vol.2, P.199

NAME
HASAN

NICKNAME
ABU MUHAMMAD

BIRTHDATE
RAMADHAN 15, 3 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM ALI (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
SAYYIDAH FATIMAH ZAHRA (A)

IMAMATE
RAMADHAN 21, 40 AH AT AGE 37

SHAHADAH
SAFAR 28, 50 AH AT AGE 47

IMAM HASAN'S (A) LIFE

He is born in Medina. He is the first grandson of the Prophet (s).

3 AH

7 AH

The verse of tathir is revealed, and the event of the blanket (Hadith al-Kisa) takes place.

He participates in the battles of Jamal, Siffin, and Nahrawan.

36 AH

His father, Imam Ali (a), passes away. Imam Hasan (a) becomes the second Imam and the caliph of the Muslims.

40 AH

40 AH

Due to a lack of support from the Muslims, Imam Hasan (a) is forced to sign a peace treaty with Muawiyah with strong conditions.

He participates with his family in the event of Mubahalah.

9 AH

Along with his mother, father, and brother, he visits the house of the Ansar to remind them of Imam Ali's (a) position.

11 AH

His father, Imam Ali (a), becomes the fourth caliph. Imam Hasan (a), along with his brother, help him and are a huge source of support for him in his rulership.

11 AH

His grandfather, the Prophet (s), passes away, as does his mother, Sayyidah Fatimah (a).

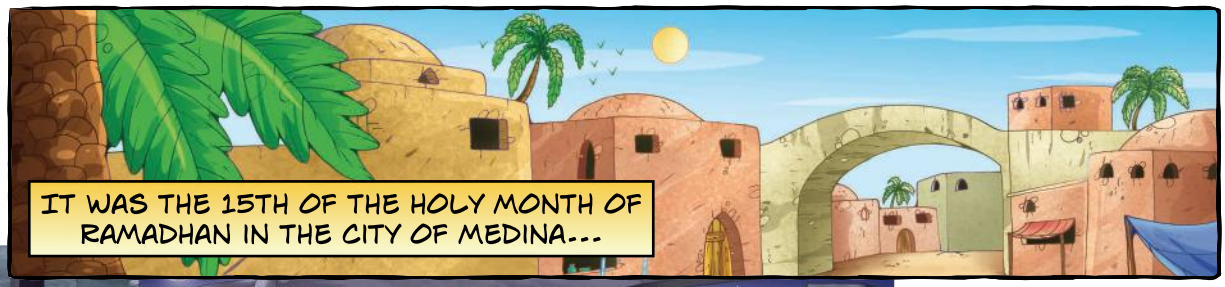
35 AH

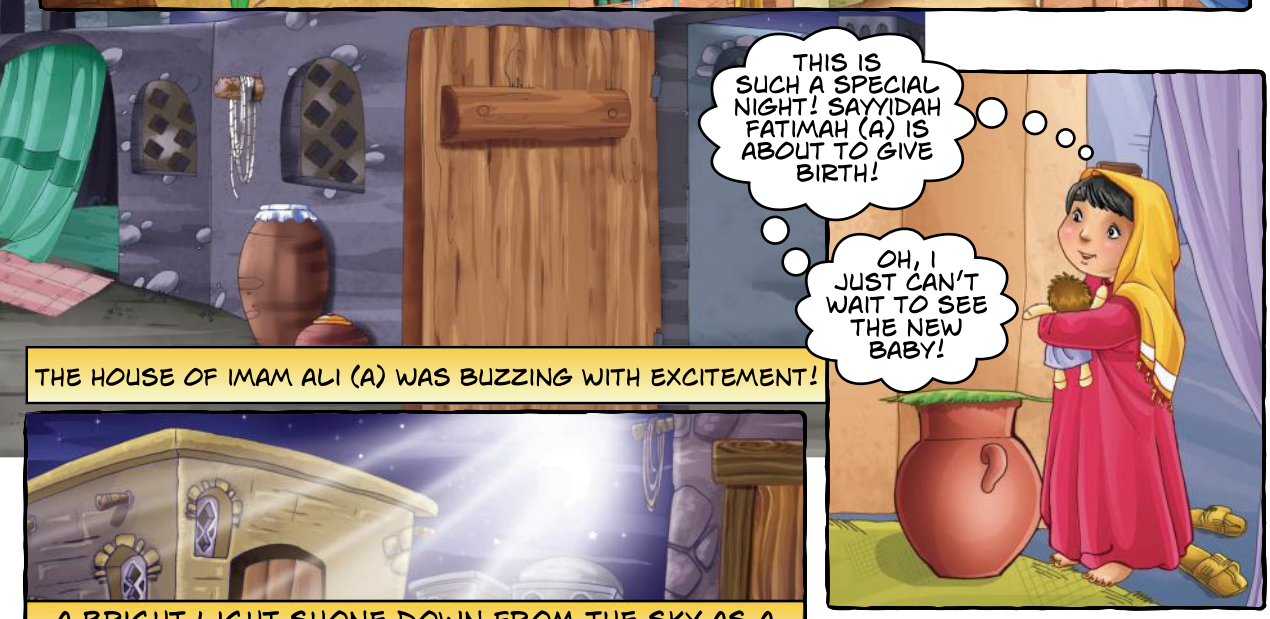
50 AH

He is poisoned by his wife Ju'dah, who has made a malicious agreement with Muawiyah.

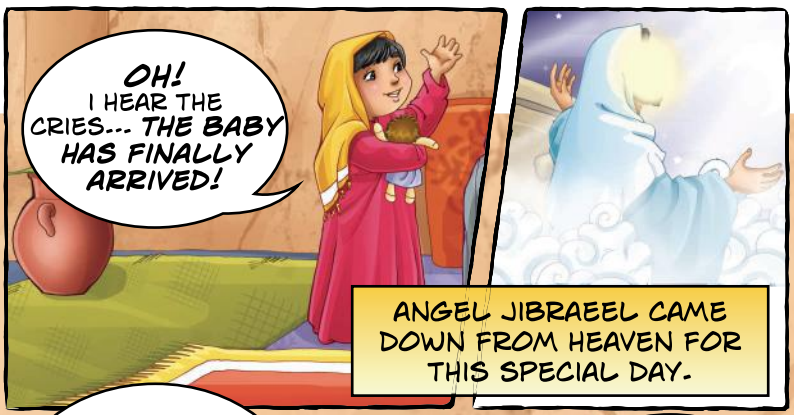
50 AH

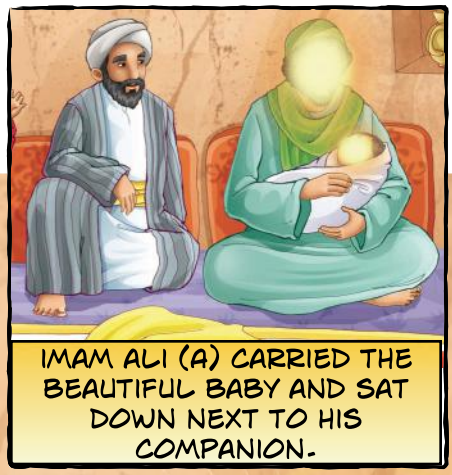
He passes away and is buried in Jannat al-Baqi in Medina.

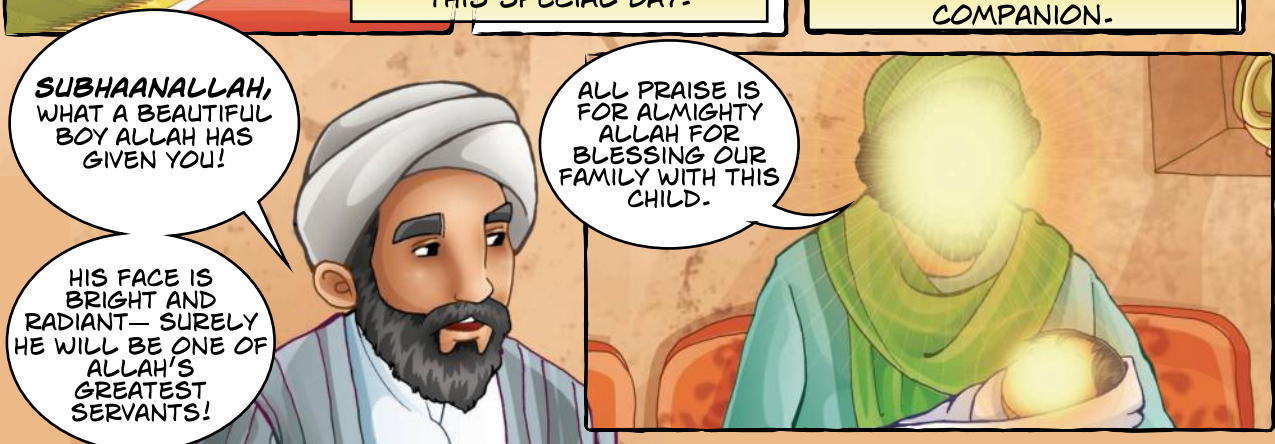

IT WAS THE 15TH OF THE HOLY MONTH OF RAMADHAN IN THE CITY OF MEDINA...

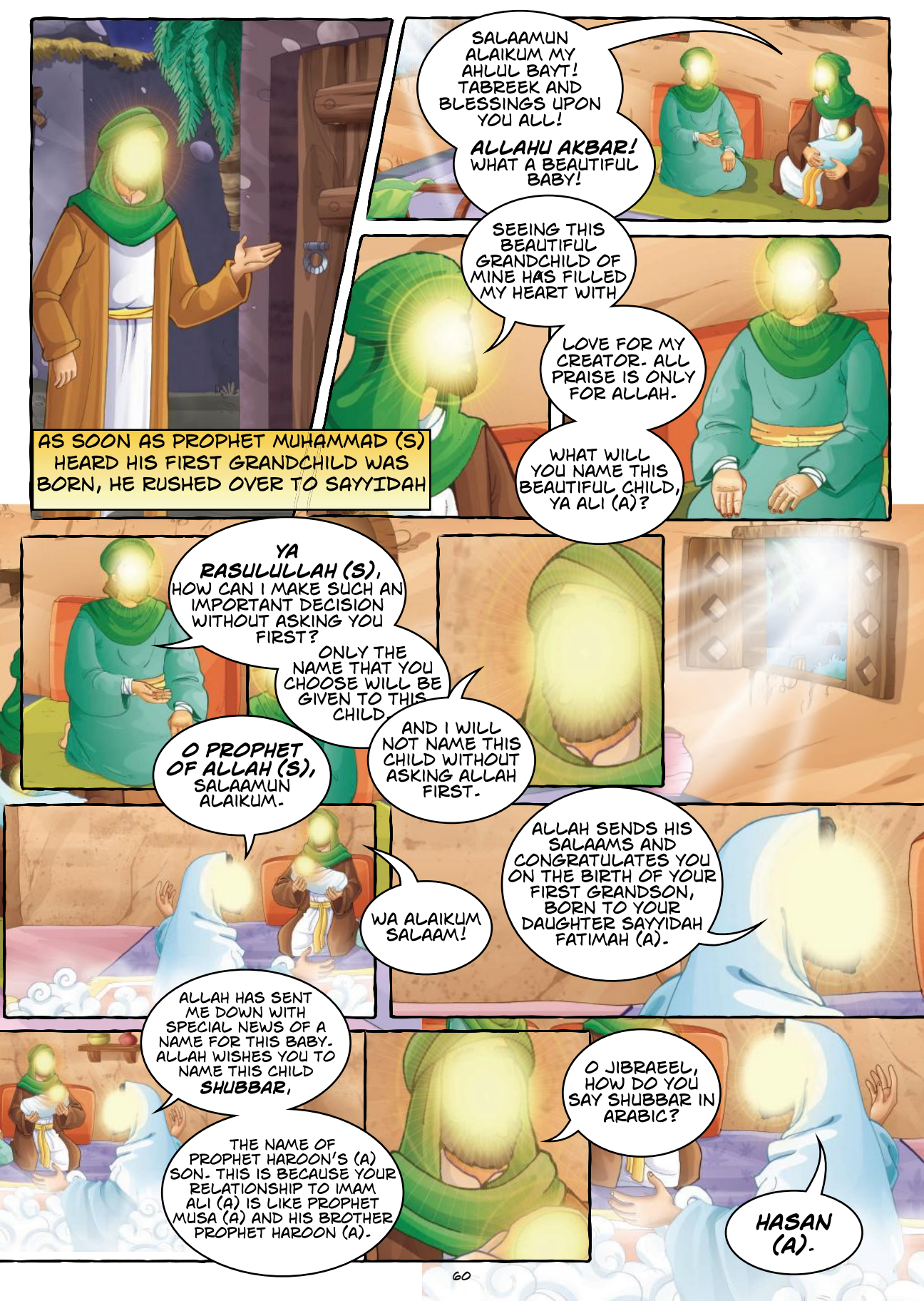

THIS IS SUCH A SPECIAL NIGHT! SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A) IS ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH!
OH, I JUST CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE NEW BABY!
THE HOUSE OF IMAM ALI (A) WAS BUZZING WITH EXCITEMENT!

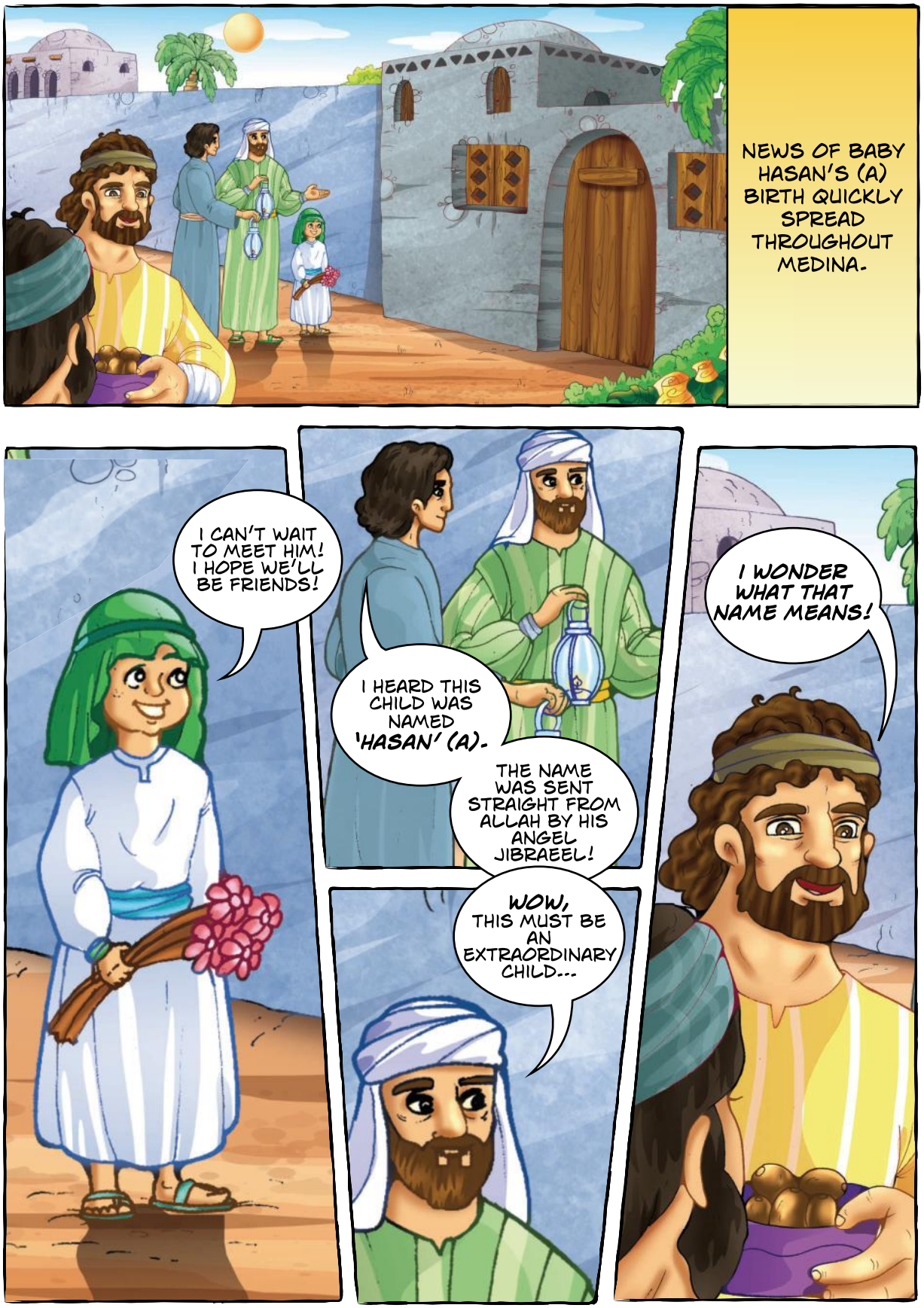
A BRIGHT LIGHT SHONE DOWN FROM THE SKY AS A NEWBORN BABY'S CRIES ECHOED ACROSS THE LAND.

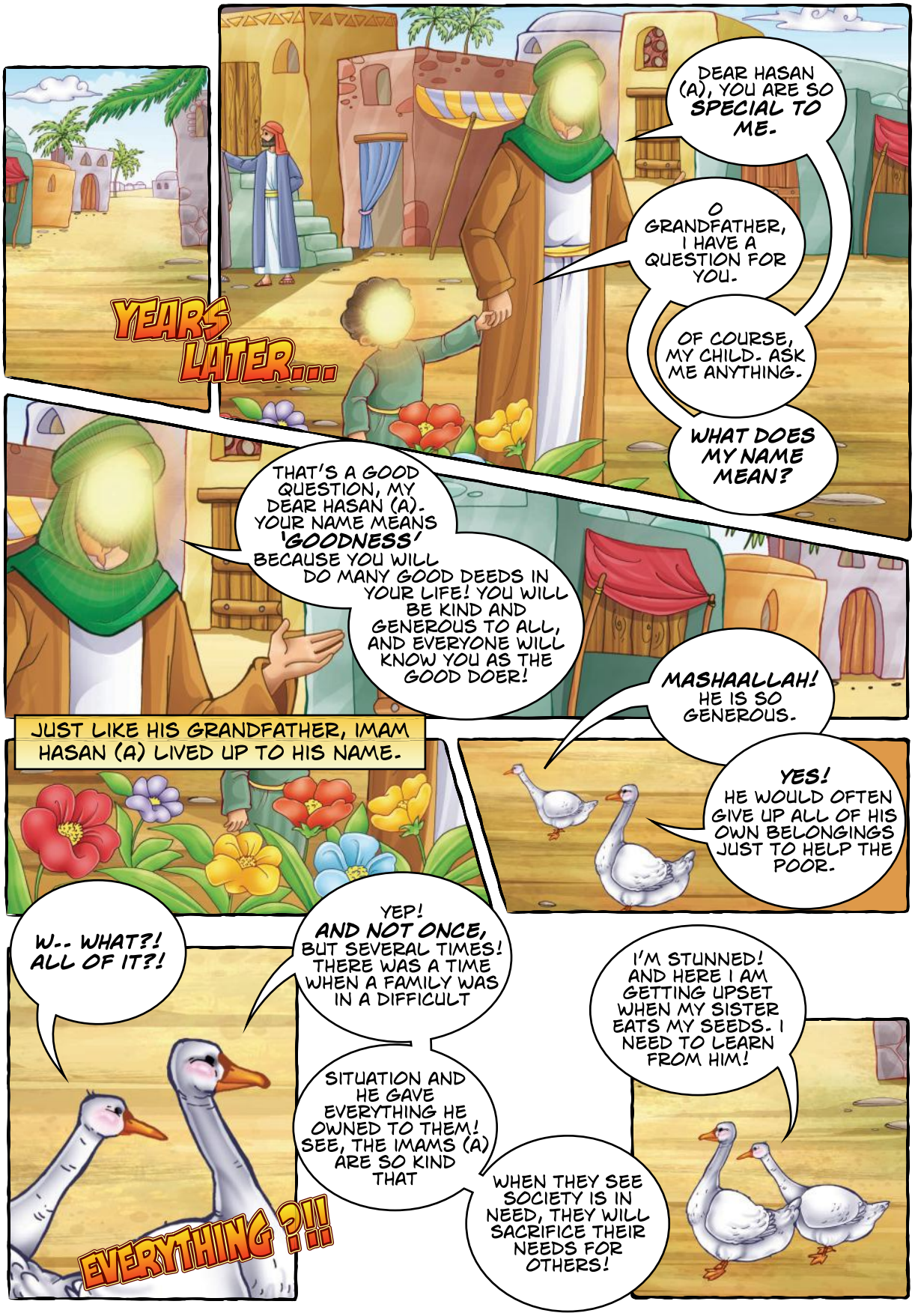

OH! I HEAR THE CRIES... THE BABY HAS FINALLY ARRIVED!
ANGEL JIBRAEEL CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN FOR THIS SPECIAL DAY.


IMAM ALI (A) CARRIED THE BEAUTIFUL BABY AND SAT DOWN NEXT TO HIS COMPANION.

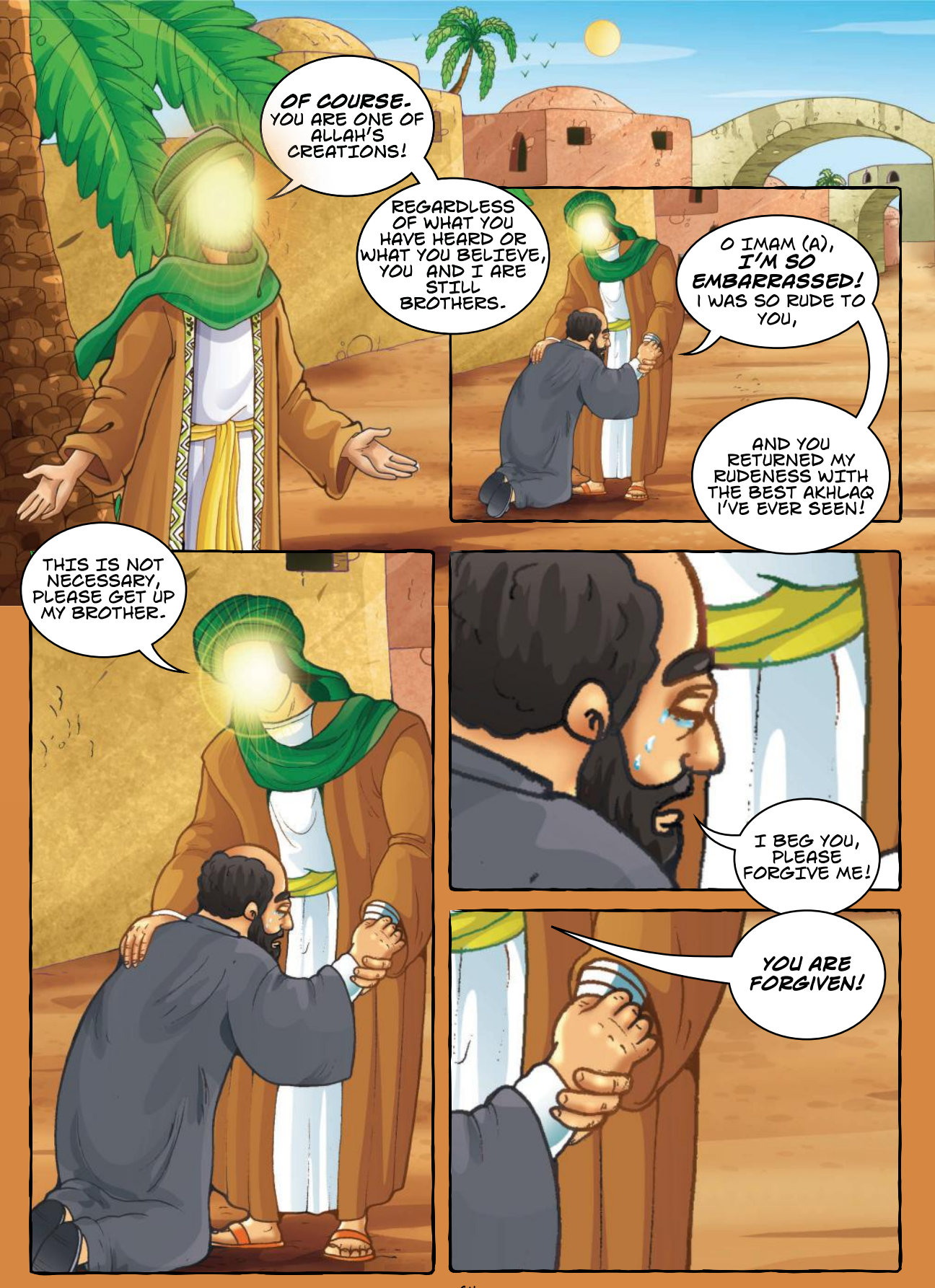

SUBHAANALLAH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BOY ALLAH HAS GIVEN YOU!
HIS FACE IS BRIGHT AND RADIANT— SURELY HE WILL BE ONE OF ALLAH'S GREATEST SERVANTS!
ALL PRAISE IS FOR ALMIGHTY ALLAH FOR BLESSING OUR FAMILY WITH THIS CHILD.

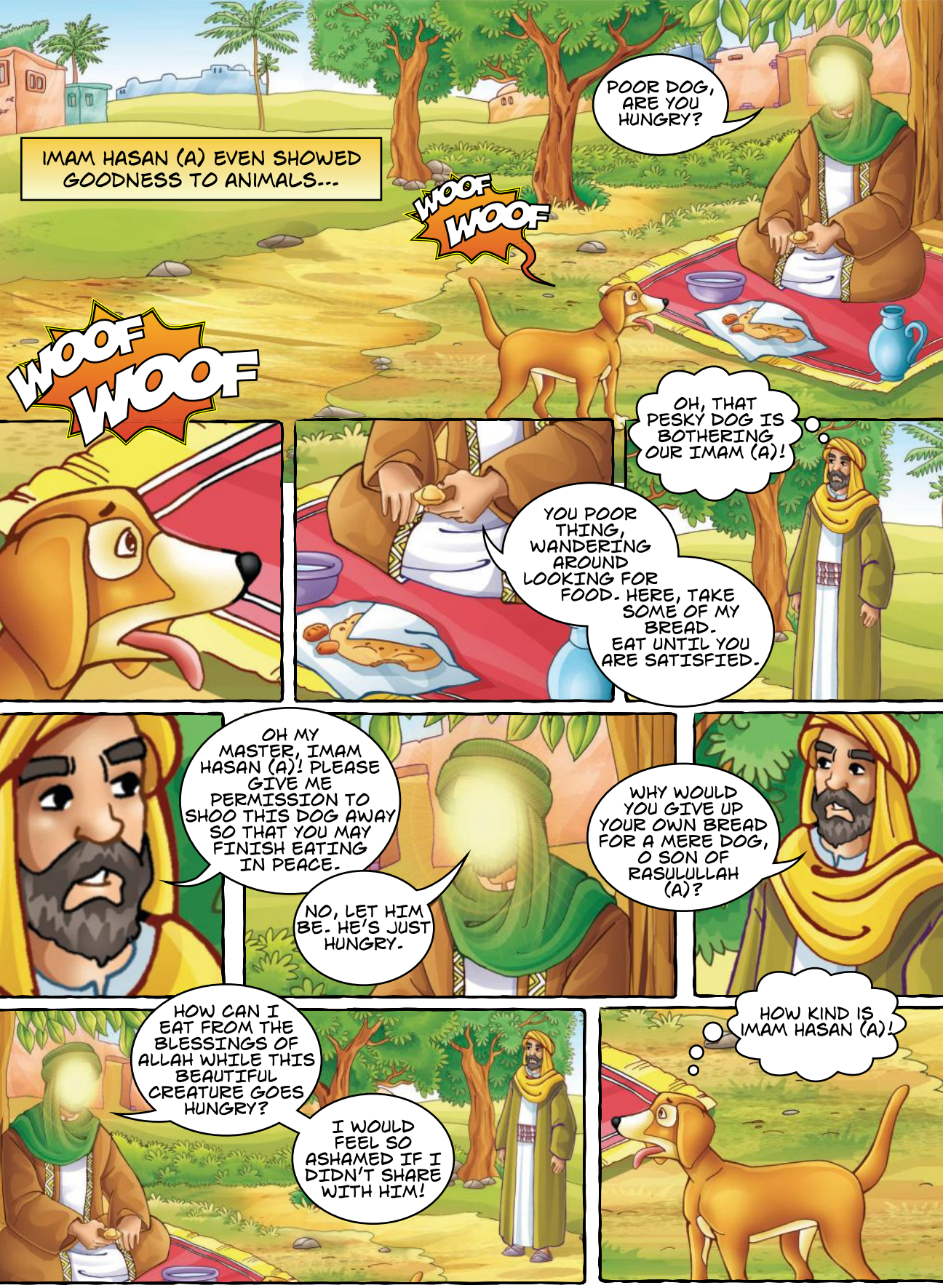

AS SOON AS PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S) HEARD HIS FIRST GRANDCHILD WAS BORN, HE RUSHED OVER TO SAYYIDAH
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM MY AHLUL BAYT! TABREEK AND BLESSINGS UPON YOU ALL!
ALLAHU AKBAR! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BABY!
SEEING THIS BEAUTIFUL GRANDCHILD OF MINE HAS FILLED MY HEART WITH
LOVE FOR MY CREATOR. ALL PRAISE IS ONLY FOR ALLAH.
WHAT WILL YOU NAME THIS BEAUTIFUL CHILD, YA ALI (A)?
YA RASULULLAH (S), HOW CAN I MAKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT DECISION WITHOUT ASKING YOU FIRST?
ONLY THE NAME THAT YOU CHOOSE WILL BE GIVEN TO THIS CHILD.
AND I WILL NOT NAME THIS CHILD WITHOUT ASKING ALLAH FIRST.
O PROPHET OF ALLAH (S), SALAAMUN ALAIKUM.
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM!
ALLAH SENDS HIS SALAAMS AND CONGRATULATES YOU ON THE BIRTH OF YOUR FIRST GRANDSON, BORN TO YOUR DAUGHTER SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A).
ALLAH HAS SENT ME DOWN WITH SPECIAL NEWS OF A NAME FOR THIS BABY. ALLAH WISHES YOU TO NAME THIS CHILD SHUBBAR,
THE NAME OF PROPHET HAROON'S (A) SON. THIS IS BECAUSE YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO IMAM ALI (A) IS LIKE PROPHET MUSA (A) AND HIS BROTHER PROPHET HAROON (A).
O JIBRAEEL, HOW DO YOU SAY SHUBBAR IN ARABIC?
HASAN (A).


NEWS OF BABY HASAN'S (A) BIRTH QUICKLY SPREAD THROUGHOUT MEDINA.
I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET HIM! I HOPE WE'LL BE FRIENDS!
I HEARD THIS CHILD WAS NAMED 'HASAN' (A).
THE NAME WAS SENT STRAIGHT FROM ALLAH BY HIS ANGEL JIBRAEEL!
WOW, THIS MUST BE AN EXTRAORDINARY CHILD...
I WONDER WHAT THAT NAME MEANS!


DEAR HASAN (A), YOU ARE SO SPECIAL TO ME.
O GRANDFATHER, I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU.
OF COURSE, MY CHILD. ASK ME ANYTHING.
WHAT DOES MY NAME MEAN?
YEARS LATER...
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION, MY DEAR HASAN (A). YOUR NAME MEANS 'GOODNESS' BECAUSE YOU WILL DO MANY GOOD DEEDS IN YOUR LIFE! YOU WILL BE KIND AND GENEROUS TO ALL, AND EVERYONE WILL KNOW YOU AS THE GOOD DOER!
MASHAALLAH! HE IS SO GENEROUS.
YES! HE WOULD OFTEN GIVE UP ALL OF HIS OWN BELONGINGS JUST TO HELP THE POOR.
JUST LIKE HIS GRANDFATHER, IMAM HASAN (A) LIVED UP TO HIS NAME.
W.. WHAT?! ALL OF IT?!
YEP! AND NOT ONCE, BUT SEVERAL TIMES! THERE WAS A TIME WHEN A FAMILY WAS IN A DIFFICULT
SITUATION AND HE GAVE EVERYTHING HE OWNED TO THEM! SEE, THE IMAMS (A) ARE SO KIND THAT
EVERYTHING ?!!
WHEN THEY SEE SOCIETY IS IN NEED, THEY WILL SACRIFICE THEIR NEEDS FOR OTHERS!
I'M STUNNED! AND HERE I AM GETTING UPSET WHEN MY SISTER EATS MY SEEDS. I NEED TO LEARN FROM HIM!

STOP RIGHT THERE! I WILL NOT LET YOU THROUGH!
I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT YOU ARE NOT A LEADER TO BE FOLLOWED.
MY LEADER, MU'AWIYAH HAS SAID THAT YOU ARE A CRUEL MAN!
YIKES! HE SEEMS KINDA GRUMPY!
PEACE BE UPON YOU! WE HAVE NOT CROSSED PATHS BEFORE —YOU MUST BE A GUEST IN THIS CITY?
ARE YOU TIRED AFTER YOUR JOURNEY?
PLEASE, COME WITH ME TO MY HOME.
I HAVE A WARM MEAL WAITING FOR YOU.
UM... ARE YOU SERIOUS? AFTER I INSULTED YOU, YOU WANT TO FEED ME?!


OF COURSE. YOU ARE ONE OF ALLAH'S CREATIONS!
REGARDLESS OF WHAT YOU HAVE HEARD OR WHAT YOU BELIEVE, YOU AND I ARE STILL BROTHERS.
O IMAM (A), I'M SO EMBARRASSED! I WAS SO RUDE TO YOU,
AND YOU RETURNED MY RUDENESS WITH THE BEST AKHLAQ I'VE EVER SEEN!
THIS IS NOT NECESSARY, PLEASE GET UP MY BROTHER.
I BEG YOU, PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
YOU ARE FORGIVEN!


IMAM HASAN (A) EVEN SHOWED GOODNESS TO ANIMALS...
WOOF WOOF
POOR DOG, ARE YOU HUNGRY?
WOOF WOOF
OH, THAT PESKY DOG IS BOTHERING OUR IMAM (A)!
YOU POOR THING, WANDERING AROUND LOOKING FOR FOOD. HERE, TAKE SOME OF MY BREAD. EAT UNTIL YOU ARE SATISFIED.
OH MY MASTER, IMAM HASAN (A)! PLEASE GIVE ME PERMISSION TO SHOO THIS DOG AWAY SO THAT YOU MAY FINISH EATING IN PEACE.
NO, LET HIM BE. HE'S JUST HUNGRY.
WHY WOULD YOU GIVE UP YOUR OWN BREAD FOR A MERE DOG, O SON OF RASULULLAH (A)?
HOW CAN I EAT FROM THE BLESSINGS OF ALLAH WHILE THIS BEAUTIFUL CREATURE GOES HUNGRY?
I WOULD FEEL SO ASHAMED IF I DIDN'T SHARE WITH HIM!
HOW KIND IS IMAM HASAN (A)!

MAY THE PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM HASAN (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE BEST OF GOOD DOERS.

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 43, P. 238
Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 43, P. 344
Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 43, P. 352

5 IMAM HUSAIN (A)

BEWARE OF OPPRESSING SOMEONE WHO HAS NO SUPPORT OR HELP EXCEPT FROM ALLAH.

Lam'ātul Husain

NAME
HUSAIN

NICKNAME
ABU 'ABDILLAH

BIRTHDATE
SHA'BAN 3, 4 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM ALI (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
SAYYIDAH FATIMAH ZAHRA (A)

IMAMATE
SAFAR 28, 50 AH AT AGE 46

SHAHADAH
MUHARRAM 10, 61 AH AGE 57

IMAM HUSAIN'S (A) LIFE

He is born in Medina. His death in Karbala is foretold by Angel Jibraeel.

4 AH

The verse of tathir is revealed, and the event of the blanket (Hadith al-Kisa) takes place.

7 AH

His brother, Imam Hasan (a), passes away, and he becomes the third Imam, continuing the peace treaty of his brother.

50 AH

Muawiyah passes away and in contradiction with the treaty, his son, Yazid takes the caliphate for himself.

60 AH

Imam Husain (a) leaves Medina toward Mecca, refusing to give allegiance to Yazid.

60 AH

He enters Mecca and receives thousands of letters of support from Kufah against the caliphate of Yazid.

60 AH

Imam Husain (a) sends his cousin Muslim b. Aqil to Kufah to assess the situation.

60 AH

He participates with his family in the event of Mubahalah.

9 AH

His grandfather, the Prophet (s), passes away, as does his mother, Sayyidah Fatimah (a).

11 AH

35 AH

His father, Imam Ali (a) becomes the fourth caliph. Imam Husain (a), along with his brother, help him and are a huge source of support for him in his rulership.

40 AH

His father, Imam Ali (a), passes away, and his brother becomes the caliph for six

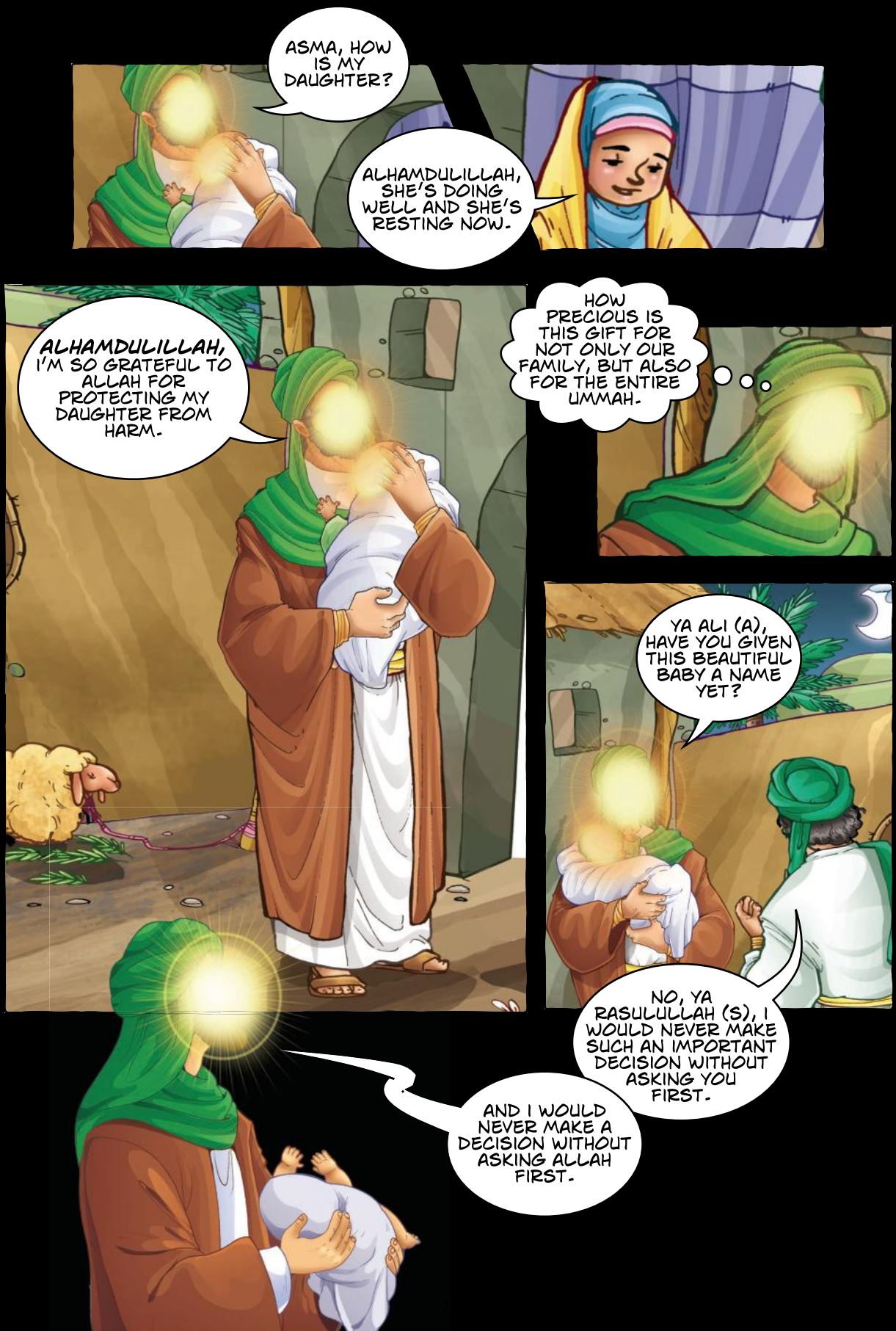
60 AH

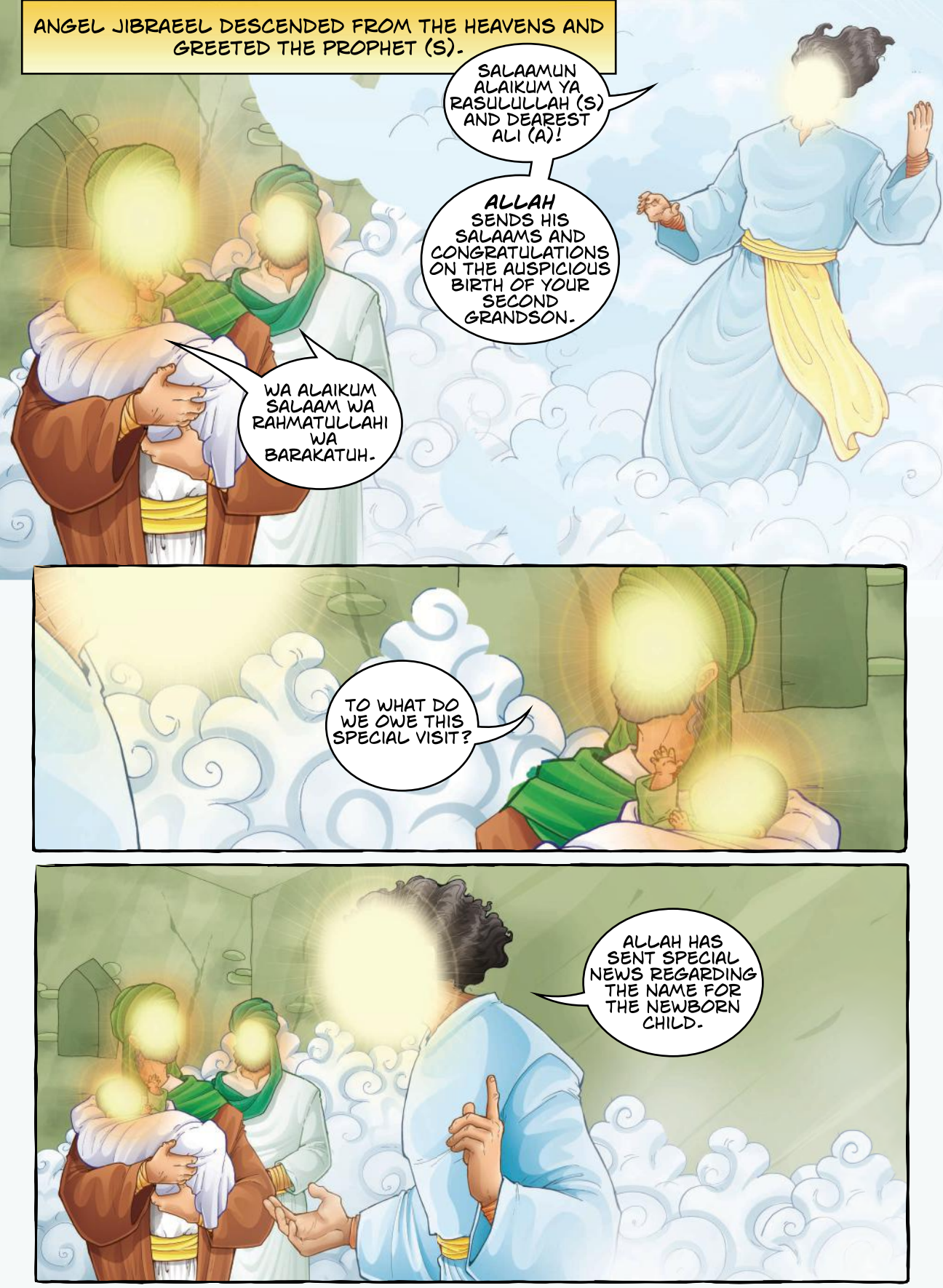
Muslim b. Aqil and Hani b. Urwah are martyred in the city of Kufa.

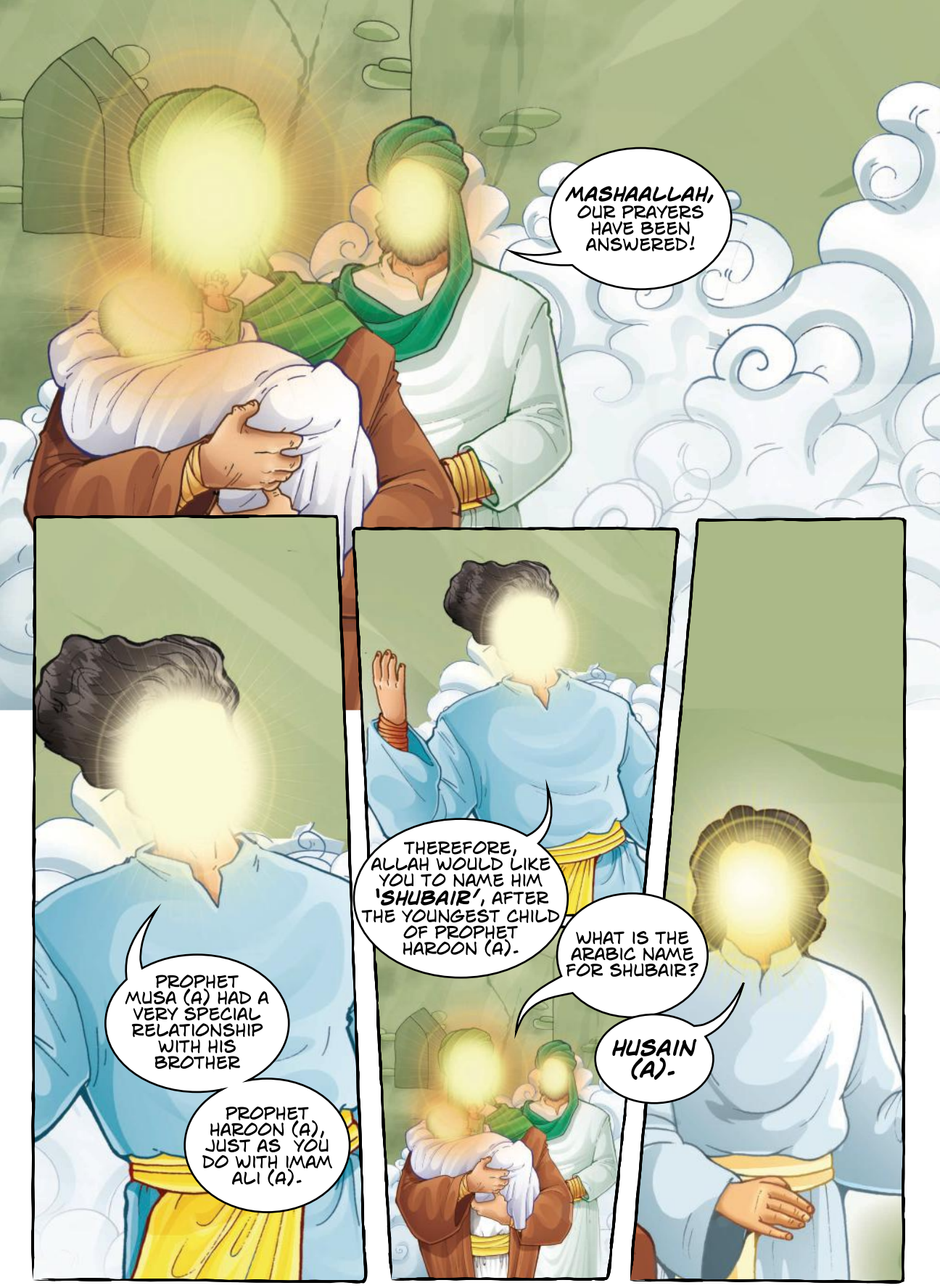
61 AH

Ashura: the Imam (a) and his companions are mercilessly killed. His family and son, Imam Zain ul-Abideen (a) are taken captive and sent to Kufah and Shaam to Yazid.

IT WAS A VERY HAPPY AND JOYFUL DAY IN THE HOLY CITY OF MEDINA. THE BLESSED HOME OF IMAM ALI (A) HAD JUST BEEN GIFTED A SECOND SON.
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM.
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM, O PROPHET (S) OF ALLAH!
PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S) ARRIVES AT THE HOME OF IMAM ALI (A) TO MEET BABY HUSAIN (A).
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SUCH A MIRACULOUS NIGHT?
NO, PROPHET (S) OF ALLAH. I DON'T BELIEVE I HAVE.
THE SKY IS SO CLEAR AND BEAUTIFUL. THE MOON IS SHINING BRIGHTER THAN I HAVE EVER SEEN IT! EVEN THE TREES SEEM TO BE SMILING!
MASHAALLAH, HE HAS SUCH A RADIANT FACE! HE REALLY IS FROM YOUR PROGENY, O PROPHET (S)!
ALL PRAISE IS FOR ALLAH, THE ONE WHO GUIDES AND TAKES CARE OF ALL OF US.
MY HEART IS FULL OF GRATITUDE FOR MY BEAUTIFUL GRANDSON. O ASMA, LET ME HOLD MY CHILD!
ASMA, THE HELPER OF SAYYIDAH FATIMAH (A) PRESENTED THE NEWBORN BABY TO THE PROPHET (S)...
HERE YOU ARE, O NOBLE PROPHET (S).
SUBHAANALLAH! TRULY, ALL PRAISE BELONGS TO ALLAH. I HAVE NO WORDS TO THANK HIM FOR HIS INFINITE BOUNTIES.


ASMA, HOW IS MY DAUGHTER?
ALHAMDULILLAH, SHE'S DOING WELL AND SHE'S RESTING NOW.
ALHAMDULILLAH, I'M SO GRATEFUL TO ALLAH FOR PROTECTING MY DAUGHTER FROM HARM.
HOW PRECIOUS IS THIS GIFT FOR NOT ONLY OUR FAMILY, BUT ALSO FOR THE ENTIRE UMMAH.
YA ALI (A), HAVE YOU GIVEN THIS BEAUTIFUL BABY A NAME YET?
NO, YA RASULULLAH (S), I WOULD NEVER MAKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT DECISION WITHOUT ASKING YOU FIRST.
AND I WOULD NEVER MAKE A DECISION WITHOUT ASKING ALLAH FIRST.


ANGEL JIBRAEEL DESCENDED FROM THE HEAVENS AND GREETED THE PROPHET (S).
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM YA RASULULLAH (S) AND DEAREST ALI (A)!
ALLAH SENDS HIS SALAAMS AND CONGRATULATIONS ON THE AUSPICIOUS BIRTH OF YOUR SECOND GRANDSON.
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM WA RAHMATULLAHI WA BARAKATUH.
TO WHAT DO WE OWE THIS SPECIAL VISIT?
ALLAH HAS SENT SPECIAL NEWS REGARDING THE NAME FOR THE NEWBORN CHILD.


MASHAALLAH, OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED!
PROPHET MUSA (A) HAD A VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS BROTHER
PROPHET HAROON (A), JUST AS YOU DO WITH IMAM ALI (A).
THEREFORE, ALLAH WOULD LIKE YOU TO NAME HIM 'SHUBAIR', AFTER THE YOUNGEST CHILD OF PROPHET HAROON (A).
WHAT IS THE ARABIC NAME FOR SHUBAIR?
HUSAIN (A).

ACCORDING TO ISLAMIC TRADITIONS, THE FIRST WORDS A NEWBORN CHILD SHOULD HEAR, ARE THE WORDS OF THE ADHAAN.

ALLAHU AKBAR
"ALLAH IS THE GREATEST."

ASH-HADU AL-LAA ILAAHA-ILLALLAAH
"I BEAR WITNESS THAT THERE IS NO GOD, BUT ALLAH."

ASH-HADU ANNA MUHAMMADAR-RASULULLAH
"I BEAR WITNESS THAT MUHAMMAD (S) IS THE MESSENGER OF ALLAH."

BABY HUSAIN (A) GLOWED BRIGHTER THAN THE MOON.

MY, MY, YOU ARE A BEAUTIFUL SIGHT, MY HUSAIN (A)! **MASHAALLAH!**

I WILL WEIGH YOUR HAIR AND GIVE ITS WEIGHT IN SILVER OR GOLD AS CHARITY.

MY DEAR GRANDSON, WE MUST SHAVE YOUR HAIR.

NOW, I'LL PUT THIS FRAGRANCE ON YOUR HEAD AND INSHAALLAH ALLAH WILL BE PLEASED WITH MY ACTIONS.

ASH-HADU ANNA ALIYAN WALI-YULLAH
"I BEAR WITNESS THAT ALI (A) IS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF ALLAH."
HAYYA A'LAS SALAAH
"HASTEN TOWARD PRAYER."
HAYYA A'LALFALAAH
"HASTEN TOWARD PROSPERITY."
HAYYA A'LA KHAYRIL AMAL
"HASTEN TOWARD THE BEST OF ACTIONS."
ALLAHU AKBAR
"ALLAH IS THE GREATEST."
LAA ILAAHA ILLALLAAH
"THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH."
BAA BAA
NEXT, WE'LL NEED TO FIND AN ANIMAL TO SACRIFICE AND DISTRIBUTE TO THE POOR IN ORDER TO THANK ALLAH.
O SHEEP, WHAT AN HONOR YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN!
THE PROPHET (S) HAS ASKED FOR YOU TO BE SACRIFICED IN HONOR OF HIS NEW GRANDSON!

ANGEL JIBRAEEL HAD ONE MORE IMPORTANT PIECE OF INFORMATION FOR THE PROPHET (S); HOWEVER, THIS WAS A SAD ONE...
O BELOVED PROPHET (S) OF ALLAH, IT BRINGS ME GREAT SORROW TO DELIVER THIS NEXT MESSAGE.
YOUR GRANDSON, HUSAIN (A), WILL ONE DAY BE BRUTALLY KILLED BY THE DISBELIEVERS IN THE LAND KNOWN AS KARBALA.
CRIES
YA RASULULLAH (S), MAY MY FATHER AND MOTHER BE SACRIFICED FOR YOU.
WHY ARE YOU CRYING ON THE BIRTH OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL NEW GRANDSON?
I'M CRYING FOR MY GRANDSON BECAUSE I FOUND OUT THAT HE WILL ONE DAY BE BARBARICALLY KILLED BY THE PEOPLE WHO CLAIM TO BE MUSLIMS.
GASP!
OH NOOO!
THOUGH HEARING THIS CAUSED GREAT SADNESS TO THE HOLY FAMILY (A), THEY ALL TRIED TO HOLD BACK THEIR TEARS TO ENJOY THE BIRTH OF THE NEWEST IMAM (A).

... JUST LIKE HIS BIG BROTHER, IMAM HUSAIN'S (A) NAME ALSO MEANS "GOODNESS" OR "GOOD-DOER", AND HE CERTAINLY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME!

THERE ARE MANY INSTANCES OF IMAM HUSAIN (A) DOING GOOD TOWARD OTHERS, BUT ONE OF THE BEST EXAMPLES CAN BE SHOWN THROUGH THE STORY OF ANGEL FUTRUS.

OH ALLAH, I CAN'T BEAR SEPARATION FROM YOU. HOW COULD I THINK THAT I KNOW BETTER THAN YOU – THE ONE WHO CREATED ME OUT OF NOTHING! I'M SO LONELY!

FUTRUS HAD ASKED ALLAH TO SEND HIM DOWN TO LIVE AMONGST MEN, SO ALLAH FULFILLED HIS WISH. BUT FUTRUS SOON REALIZED THIS WAS NOT WHAT HE TRULY WANTED.

SIIIIIGH

HUH?! WHA...WHAT IS THAT?! IS THAT YOU JIBRAEEL?!

O BROTHER, JIBRAEEL! SALAAMUN ALAIKUM!

SALAAM AND GREETINGS FUTRUS!

BROTHER, WHERE ARE YOU ALL GOING? WHAT IS HAPPENING?

ALLAH HAS BLESSED THE PROPHET (S) WITH ANOTHER GRANDSON, AND HE LOVES HIM SO MUCH

THAT HE ASKED US ALL TO GO DOWN AND CONGRATULATE THE PROPHET (S) ON THIS OCCASION.

O JIBRAEEL! PLEASE LET ME COME WITH YOU! PERHAPS, I CAN ASK THE PROPHET (S) TO PRAY FOR ME

SO THAT ALLAH FORGIVES ME AND ALLOWS ME BACK NEAR HIS THRONE! I BEG OF YOU!

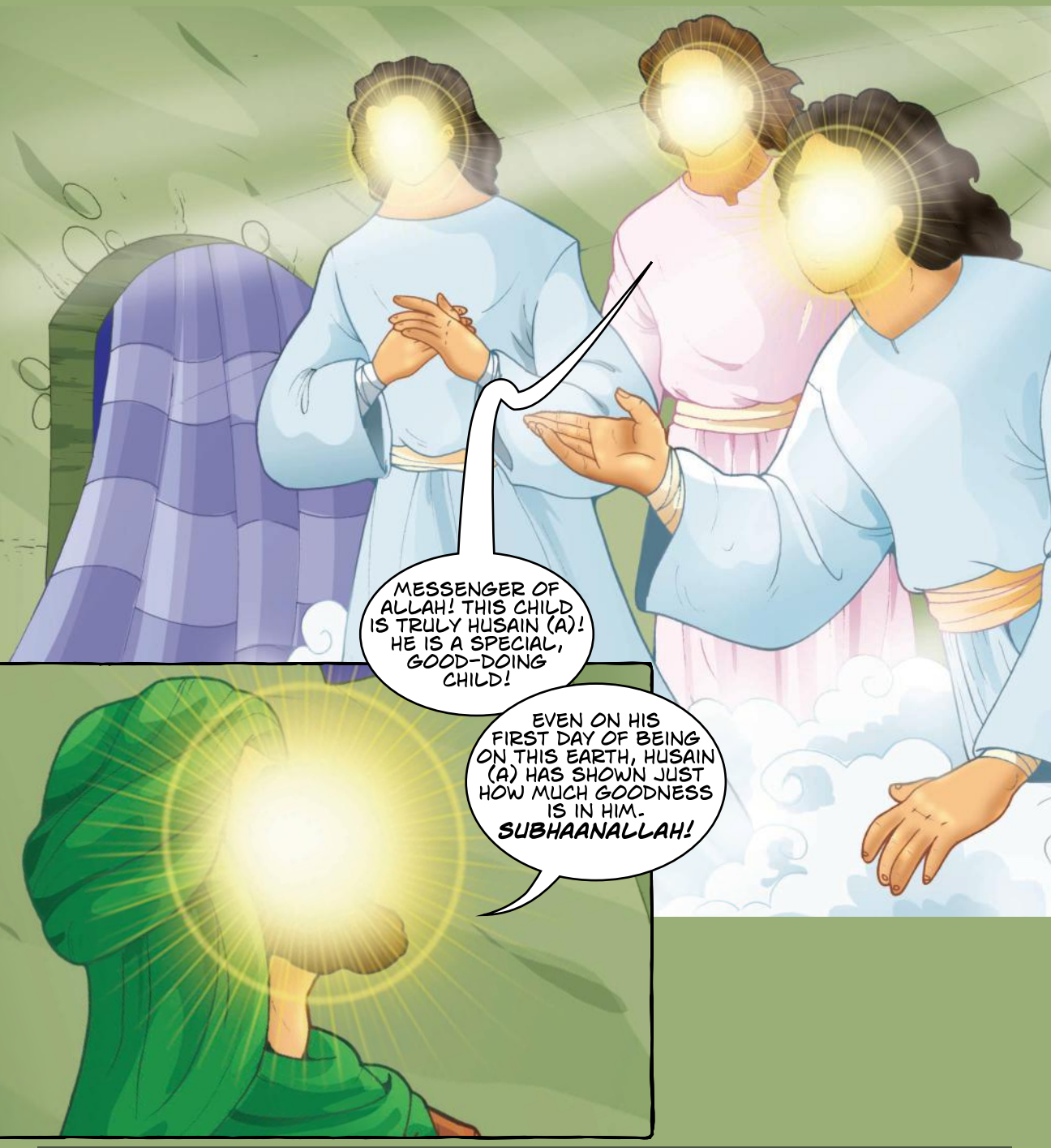
JIBRAEEL AGREED, AND THEY DESCENDED UPON THE HOME OF IMAM ALI (A). THEY ALL GREETED THE PROPHET (S) AND CONGRATULATED HIM.

O MESSENGER OF ALLAH (S), I HAVE ANGEL FUTRUS HERE WITH ME, WHO LEFT THE THRONE OF ALLAH AND WAS BANISHED.

HE NOW WISHES TO JOIN US BACK AT THE THRONE. COULD YOU PRAY TO ALLAH TO FORGIVE HIM?

MY DEAR, GO AND TOUCH THE CRADLE OF BABY HUSAIN (A).

FUTRUS DID AND GASPED! HIS ANGELIC LIGHT REAPPEARED AND ALLAH ALLOWED HIM TO LIVE AMONGST ANGELS ONCE AGAIN.



MAY THE PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM HUSAIN (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE BEST OF GOOD DOERS. O ALLAH, ALLOW US TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS TO DO ONLY THE BEST DEEDS, INSHAALLAH!

Al-Amālī of Shaykh Sudūq, P. 197-198
ʿIlal ash-Sharāiʿ, P. 137-138
Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 44, P. 182

6 IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A)

O' LORD! IMPROVE MY RELIGION FOR ME, BECAUSE IT IS A FORM OF DIVINE PROTECTION FOR EVERYTHING IN MY LIFE. AND IMPROVE MY STATE IN THE NEXT WORLD FOR ME, BECAUSE WITHOUT A DOUBT, IT IS THE PERMANENT PLACE WHERE I WILL ESCAPE FROM THOSE WHO ARE EVIL. INCREASE MY LIFE IN ANY GOODNESS, AND MAKE MY DEATH A WAY FOR ME TO BE FREE FROM ALL SICKNESSES.

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 90, P. 187

NAME
ALI IBN HUSAIN

NICKNAME
ABUL HASAN

BIRTHDATE
SHA'BAN 5, 38 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM HUSAIN (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
SHAHRBANU

IMAMATE
MUHARRAM 10, 61 AH AT AGE 23

SHAHADAH
MUHARRAM 25, 95 AH AT AGE 57

IMAM AS-SAJJAD'S (A) LIFE

He is born in the city of Medina.

38 AH

His son, Imam Muhammad Baqir (a), is born.

57 AH

Muslim b. Aqil is martyred and along with his father, they are detoured to Karbala on their way to Kufah.

60 AH

Mukhtar al-Thaqafi uprises and takes revenge on some of the killers of Imam Husain (a) and his family.

66 AH

He gives a lengthy narration that becomes the Risalat al-Huquq (Treatise of Rights) which is an in depth look at the rights of people.

76 AH

80 AH

He recites many duas in Masjid an-Nabi which teaches and solidifies the spiritual roots of the Muslims.

61 AH

Ashura: he witnesses his entire family massacred. He is extremely ill on the day of Ashura and is taken captive and sent to Kufah and Shaam to Yazid along with the women of the Ahlul Bayt (a).

61 AH

Along with his aunt, Sayyidah Zainab (a), they take the Ahlul Bayt (a) and are paraded in the streets of Kufah and Shaam. They both give powerful speeches to Yazid.

63 AH

The Event of Harra: an uprising against the Umayyads by the people of Medina.

64 AH

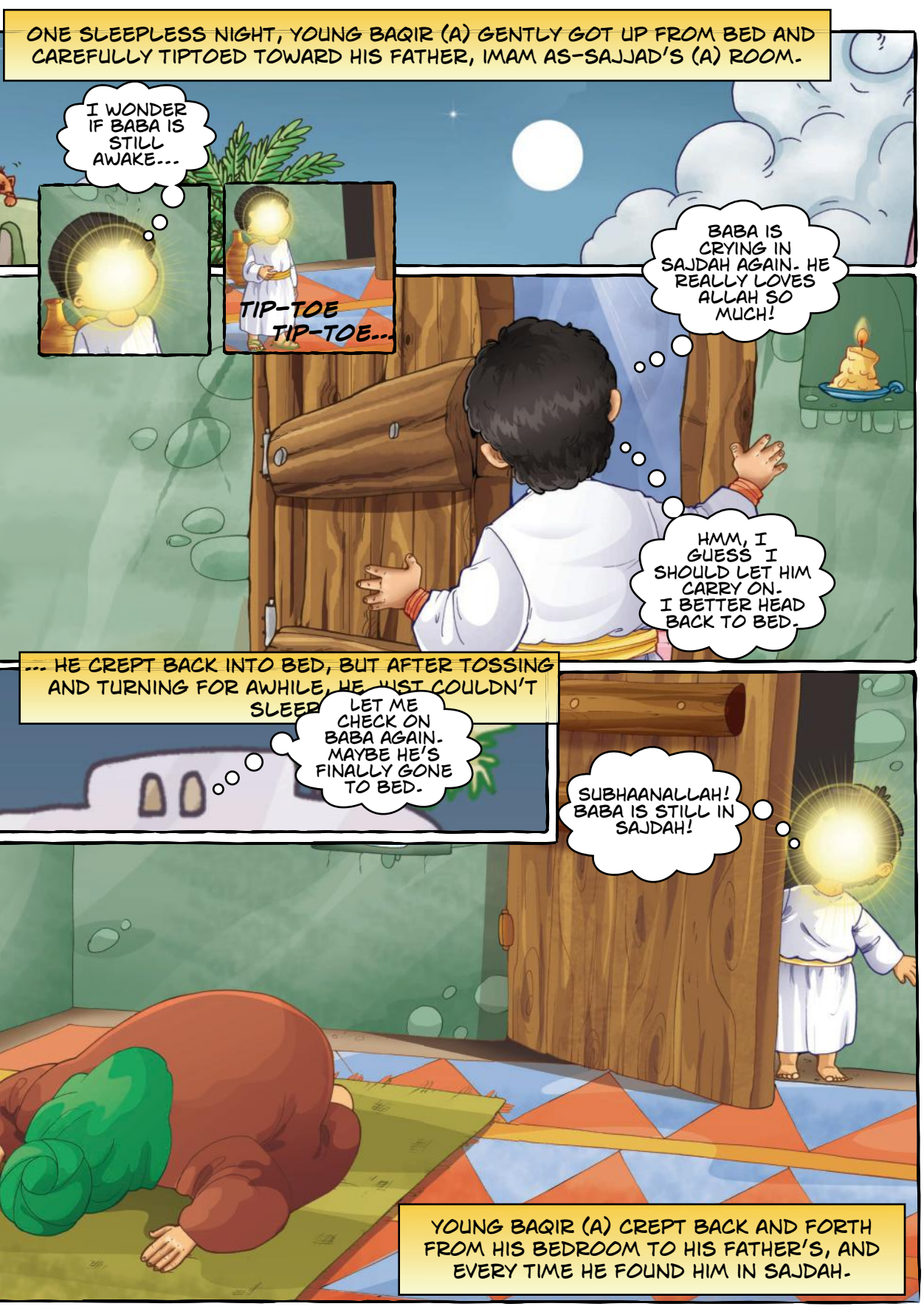
The uprisings of the Tawwabun (those who repented) as they demanded revenge for the massacres of Karbala.

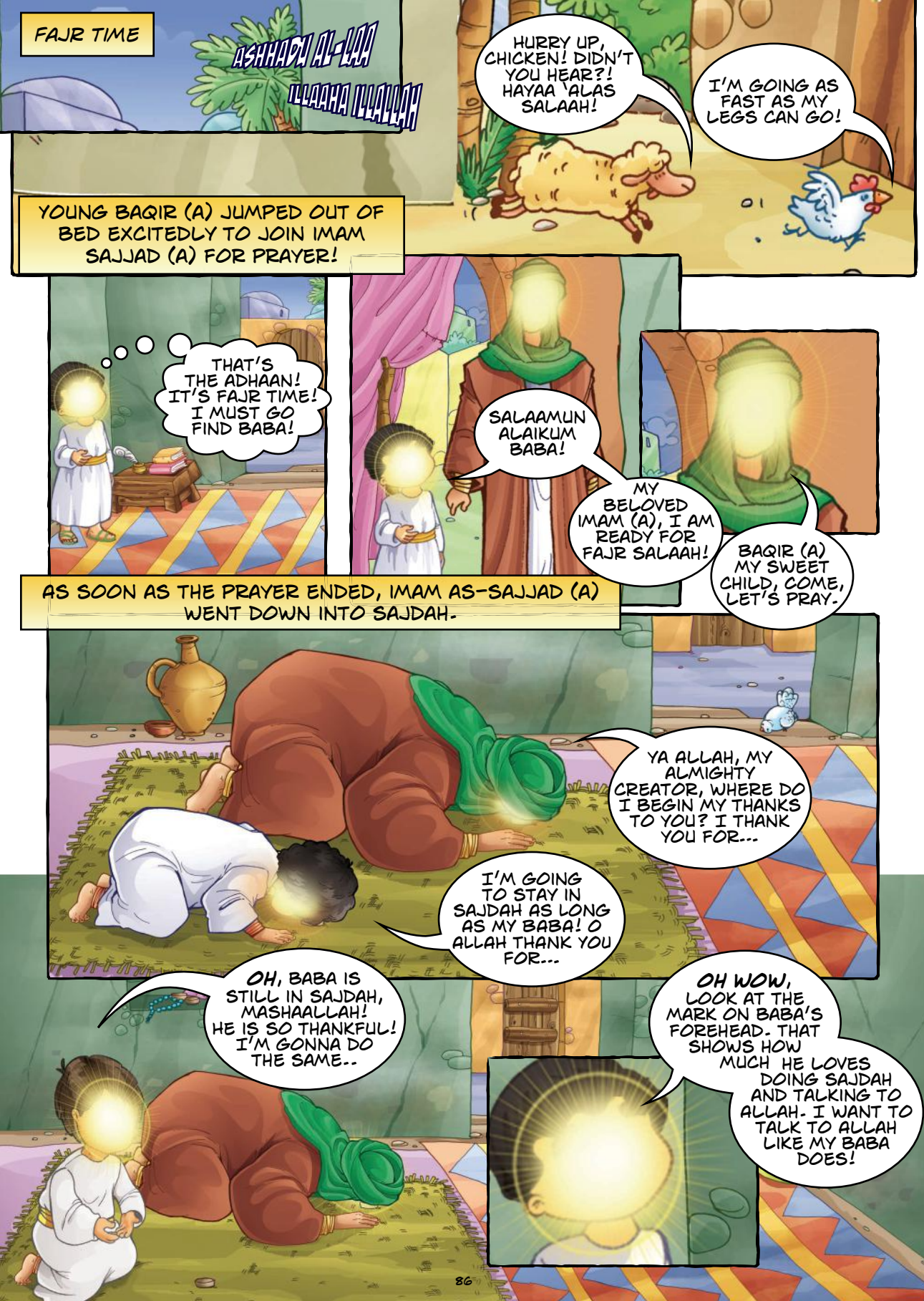
87 AH

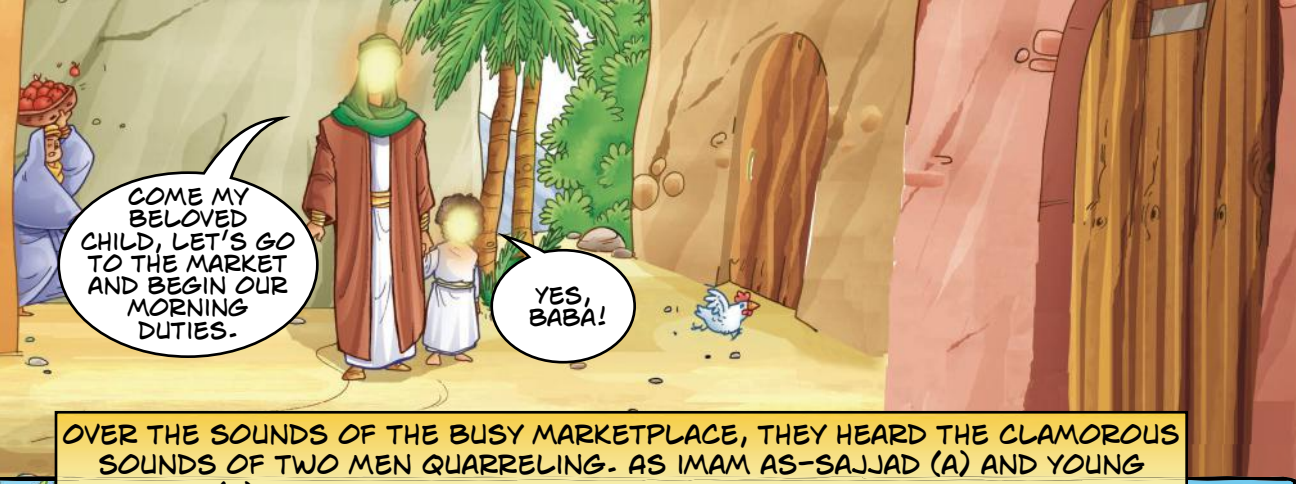
His companion, Abu Hamza al-Thumali, records a lengthy narration that he recites in the month of Ramadhan.

95 AH

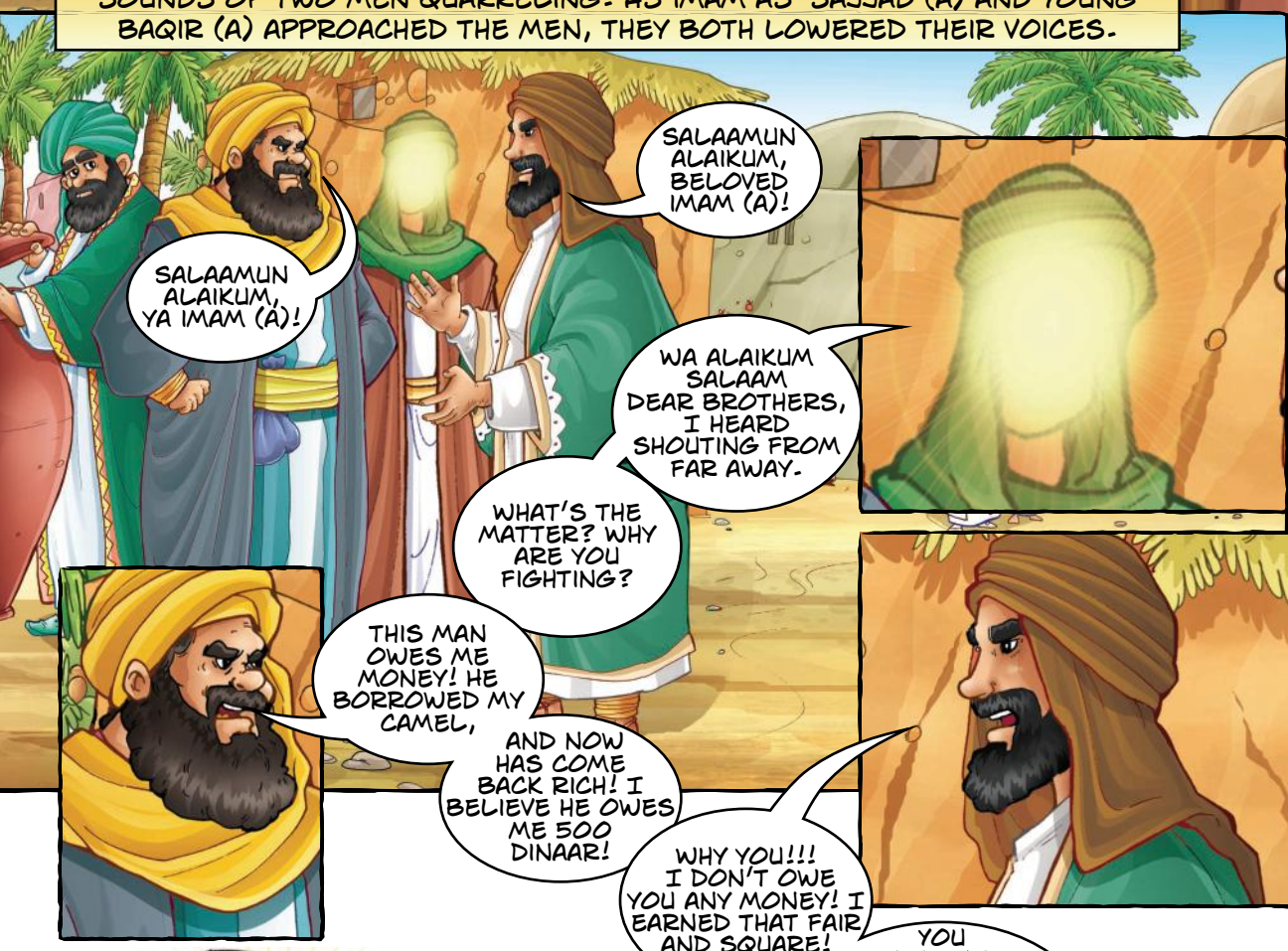
He is poisoned, passes away, and is buried in Jannat al-Baqi in Medina.


ONE SLEEPLESS NIGHT, YOUNG BAQIR (A) GENTLY GOT UP FROM BED AND CAREFULLY TIPTOED TOWARD HIS FATHER, IMAM AS-SAJJAD'S (A) ROOM.
I WONDER IF BABA IS STILL AWAKE...
TIP-TOE TIP-TOE...
BABA IS CRYING IN SAJDAH AGAIN. HE REALLY LOVES ALLAH SO MUCH!
HMM, I GUESS I SHOULD LET HIM CARRY ON. I BETTER HEAD BACK TO BED.
... HE CREPT BACK INTO BED, BUT AFTER TOSSING AND TURNING FOR AWHILE, HE JUST COULDN'T SLEEP.
LET ME CHECK ON BABA AGAIN. MAYBE HE'S FINALLY GONE TO BED.
SUBHAANALLAH! BABA IS STILL IN SAJDAH!
YOUNG BAQIR (A) CREPT BACK AND FORTH FROM HIS BEDROOM TO HIS FATHER'S, AND EVERY TIME HE FOUND HIM IN SAJDAH.

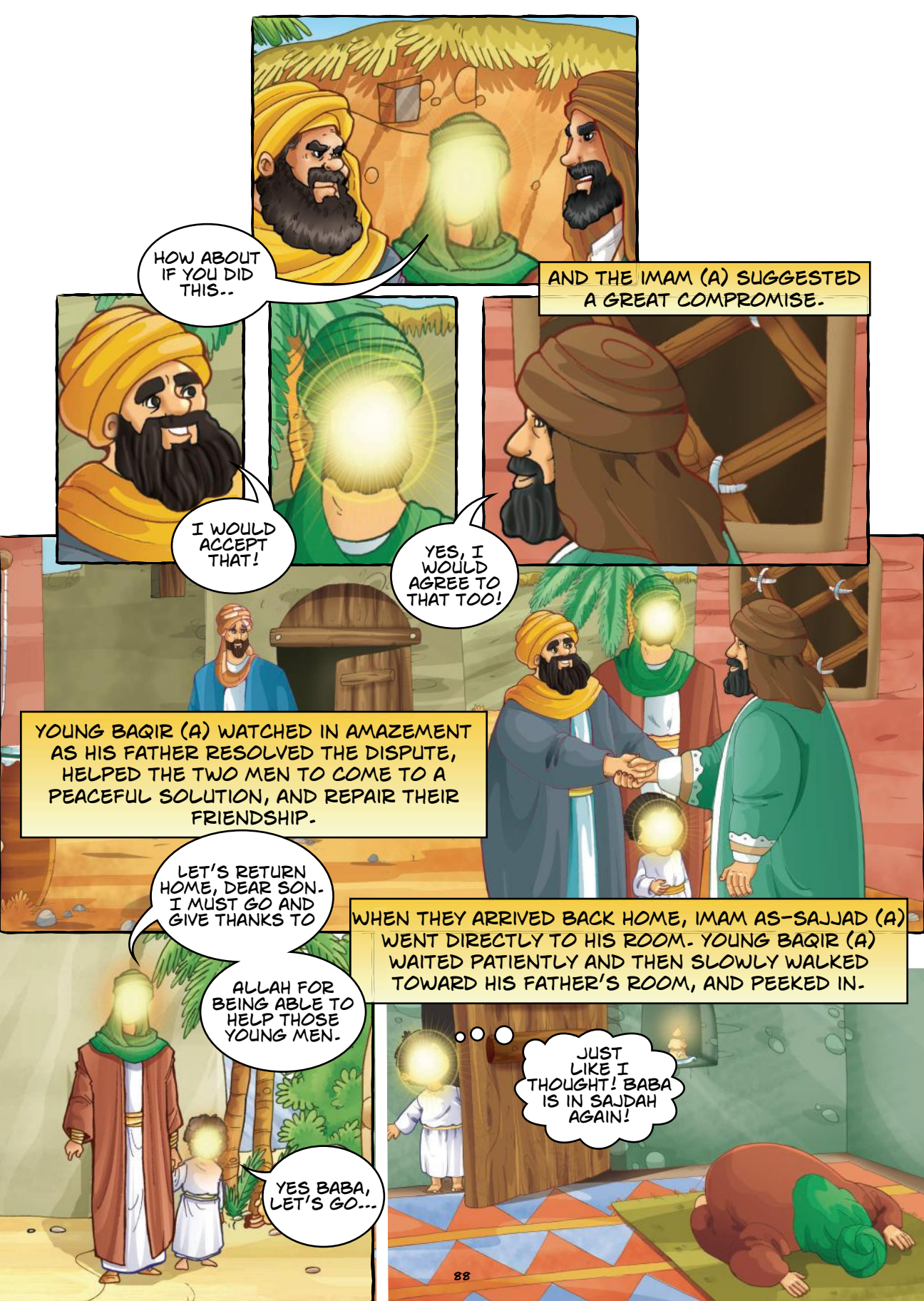

FAJR TIME
ASHHADU AL-LAA ILLAAHA ILLALLAH
HURRY UP, CHICKEN! DIDN'T YOU HEAR?! HAYAA 'ALAS SALAAH!
I'M GOING AS FAST AS MY LEGS CAN GO!
YOUNG BAQIR (A) JUMPED OUT OF BED EXCITEDLY TO JOIN IMAM SAJJAD (A) FOR PRAYER!
THAT'S THE ADHAAN! IT'S FAJR TIME! I MUST GO FIND BABA!
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM BABA!
MY BELOVED IMAM (A), I AM READY FOR FAJR SALAAH!
BAQIR (A) MY SWEET CHILD, COME, LET'S PRAY.
AS SOON AS THE PRAYER ENDED, IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) WENT DOWN INTO SAJDAH.
YA ALLAH, MY ALMIGHTY CREATOR, WHERE DO I BEGIN MY THANKS TO YOU? I THANK YOU FOR...
I'M GOING TO STAY IN SAJDAH AS LONG AS MY BABA! O ALLAH THANK YOU FOR...
OH, BABA IS STILL IN SAJDAH, MASHAALLAH! HE IS SO THANKFUL! I'M GONNA DO THE SAME..
OH WOW, LOOK AT THE MARK ON BABA'S FOREHEAD. THAT SHOWS HOW MUCH HE LOVES DOING SAJDAH AND TALKING TO ALLAH. I WANT TO TALK TO ALLAH LIKE MY BABA DOES!

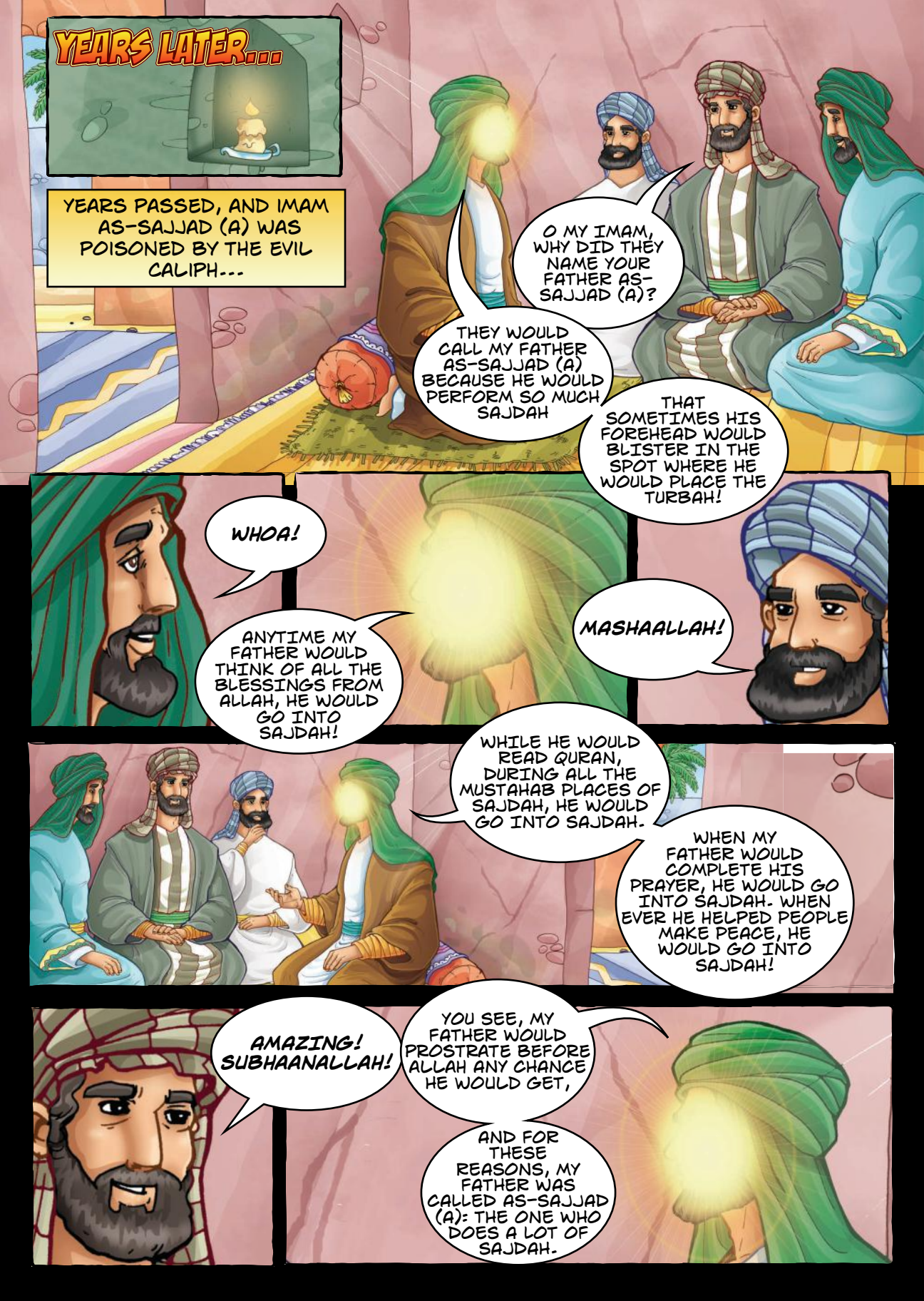


OVER THE SOUNDS OF THE BUSY MARKETPLACE, THEY HEARD THE CLAMOROUS SOUNDS OF TWO MEN QUARRELING. AS IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) AND YOUNG BAQIR (A) APPROACHED THE MEN, THEY BOTH LOWERED THEIR VOICES.

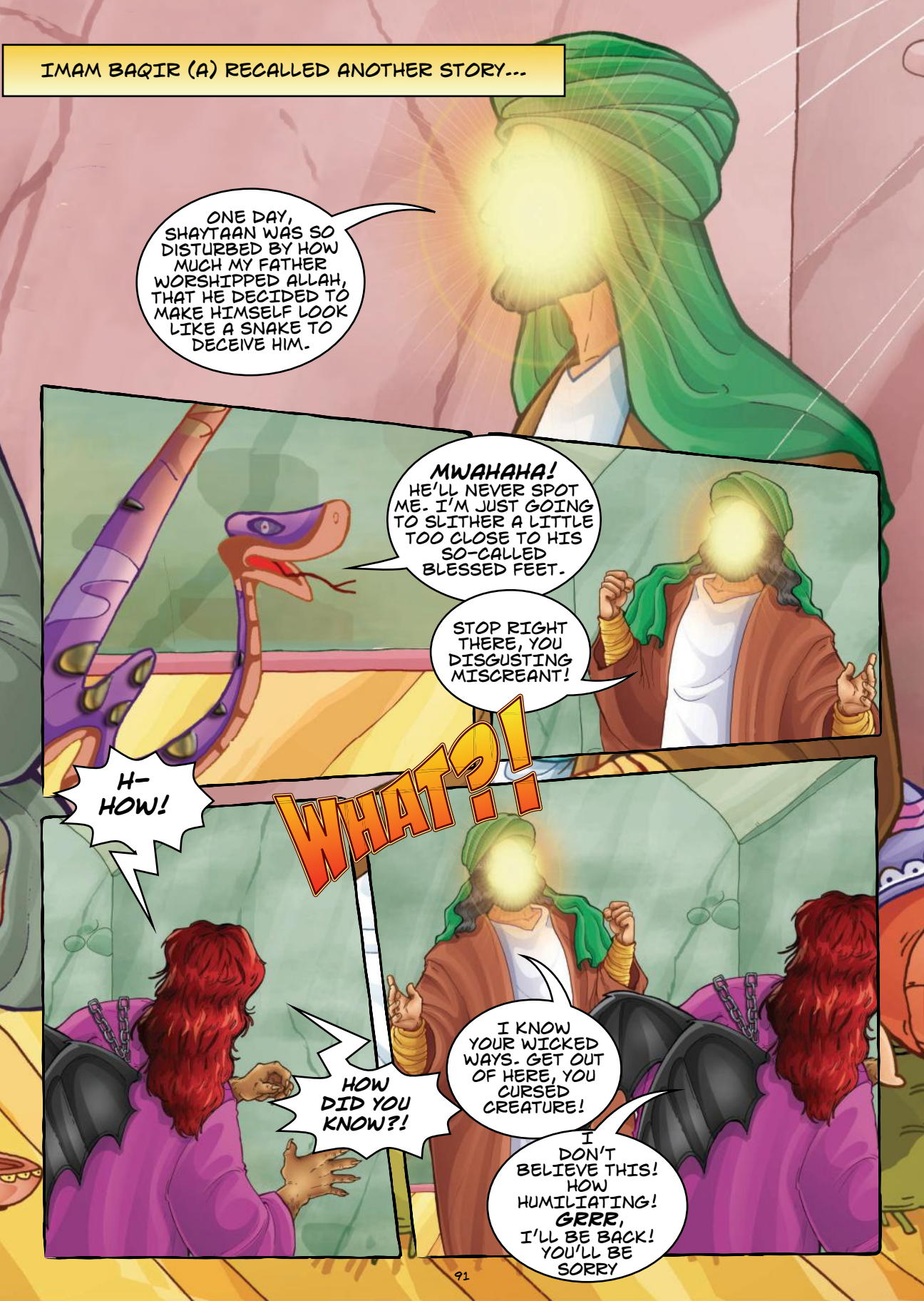


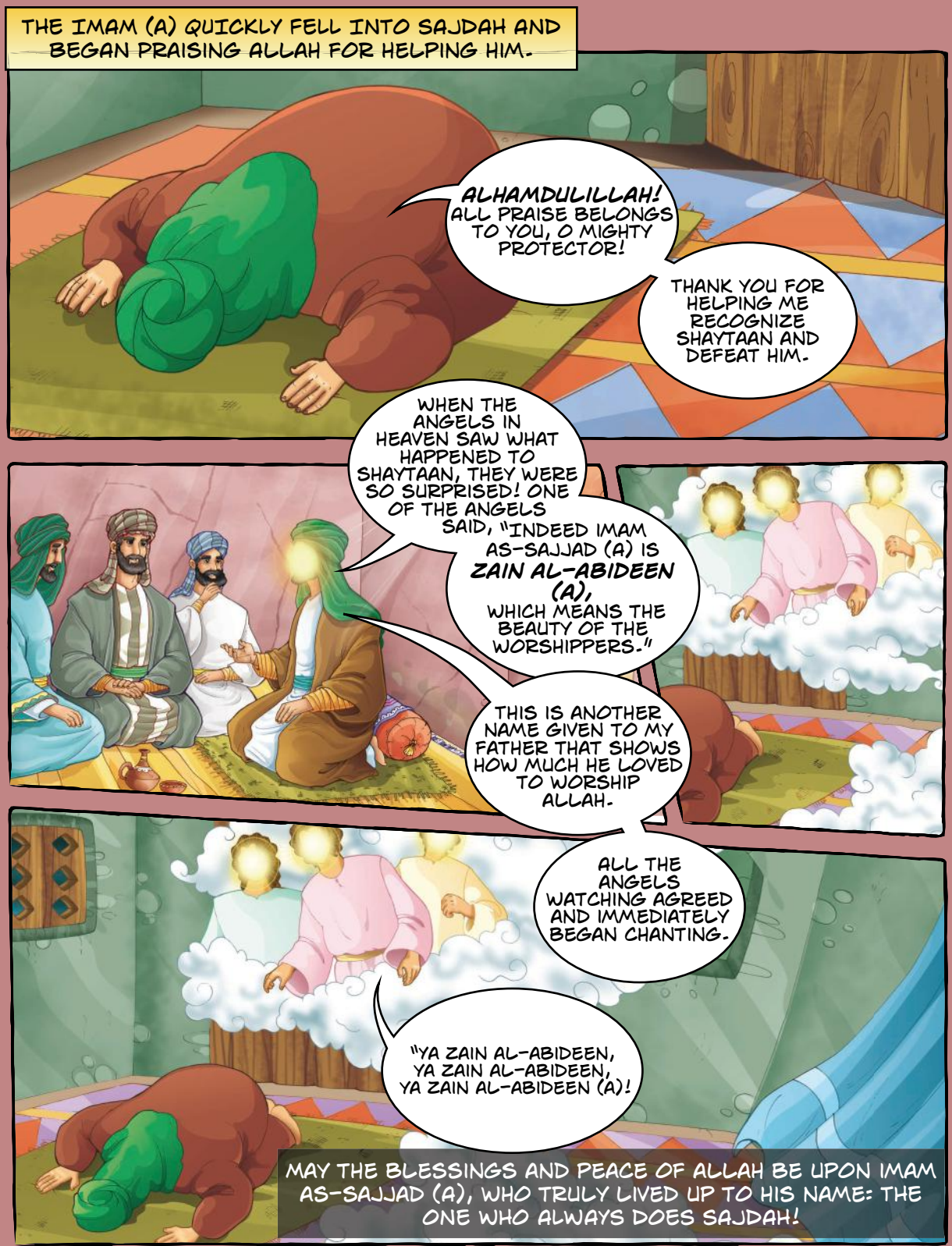
THEY CONTINUED TO ARGUE WHILE IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) AND YOUNG BAQIR (A) LISTENED PATIENTLY. THE IMAM (A), SADDENED TO SEE AN ARGUMENT OCCUR BETWEEN TWO FRIENDS, CAREFULLY AND GENTLY INTERRUPTED THE CONVERSATION TO OFFER A SOLUTION...


HOW ABOUT IF YOU DID THIS..
I WOULD ACCEPT THAT!
AND THE IMAM (A) SUGGESTED A GREAT COMPROMISE.
YES, I WOULD AGREE TO THAT TOO!
YOUNG BAQIR (A) WATCHED IN AMAZEMENT AS HIS FATHER RESOLVED THE DISPUTE, HELPED THE TWO MEN TO COME TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION, AND REPAIR THEIR FRIENDSHIP.
LET'S RETURN HOME, DEAR SON. I MUST GO AND GIVE THANKS TO
ALLAH FOR BEING ABLE TO HELP THOSE YOUNG MEN.
YES BABA, LET'S GO...
WHEN THEY ARRIVED BACK HOME, IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) WENT DIRECTLY TO HIS ROOM. YOUNG BAQIR (A) WAITED PATIENTLY AND THEN SLOWLY WALKED TOWARD HIS FATHER'S ROOM, AND PEEKED IN.
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT! BABA IS IN SAJDAH AGAIN!


YEARS LATER...
YEARS PASSED, AND IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) WAS POISONED BY THE EVIL CALIPH...
O MY IMAM, WHY DID THEY NAME YOUR FATHER AS-SAJJAD (A)?
THEY WOULD CALL MY FATHER AS-SAJJAD (A) BECAUSE HE WOULD PERFORM SO MUCH SAJDAH
THAT SOMETIMES HIS FOREHEAD WOULD BLISTER IN THE SPOT WHERE HE WOULD PLACE THE TURBAH!
WHOA!
ANYTIME MY FATHER WOULD THINK OF ALL THE BLESSINGS FROM ALLAH, HE WOULD GO INTO SAJDAH!
MASHAALLAH!
WHILE HE WOULD READ QURAN, DURING ALL THE MUSTAHAB PLACES OF SAJDAH, HE WOULD GO INTO SAJDAH.
WHEN MY FATHER WOULD COMPLETE HIS PRAYER, HE WOULD GO INTO SAJDAH. WHEN EVER HE HELPED PEOPLE MAKE PEACE, HE WOULD GO INTO SAJDAH!
AMAZING! SUBHAANALLAH!
YOU SEE, MY FATHER WOULD PROSTRATE BEFORE ALLAH ANY CHANCE HE WOULD GET,
AND FOR THESE REASONS, MY FATHER WAS CALLED AS-SAJJAD (A): THE ONE WHO DOES A LOT OF SAJDAH.

JUST THEN, IMAM BAQIR (A) REMEMBERED A STORY ABOUT HIS FATHER AND CLOSED HIS EYES, REMEMBERING THE SCENE LIKE IT WAS YESTERDAY...
SOMETIMES, WHEN I COULDN'T SLEEP, I WOULD WATCH AS MY FATHER WOULD WAKE UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND GO TO THE KA'BAH TO DO TAWAAF.
HE WOULD HOLD ONTO THE WALLS OF THE KA'BAH AND CRY AND CRY. HE WOULD THEN GO INTO SAJDAH AND CRY SO MUCH THAT THE FLOOR BELOW HIM WOULD BECOME WET WITH HIS TEARS!
WHILE EVERYONE ELSE WAS FAST ASLEEP AT NIGHT, MY FATHER WOULD BE BUSY IN SUPPLICATION TO ALLAH.
WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?! HE LOVES TALKING TO ALLAH.
I CAN'T STAND HOW HUMBLE HE IS, ALWAYS WEEPING AND CRYING!


IMAM BAQIR (A) RECALLED ANOTHER STORY...
ONE DAY, SHAYTAAN WAS SO DISTURBED BY HOW MUCH MY FATHER WORSHIPPED ALLAH, THAT HE DECIDED TO MAKE HIMSELF LOOK LIKE A SNAKE TO DECEIVE HIM.
MWAHAHA! HE'LL NEVER SPOT ME. I'M JUST GOING TO SLITHER A LITTLE TOO CLOSE TO HIS SO-CALLED BLESSED FEET.
STOP RIGHT THERE, YOU DISGUSTING MISCREANT!
WHAT?!
H- HOW!
HOW DID YOU KNOW?!
I KNOW YOUR WICKED WAYS. GET OUT OF HERE, YOU CURSED CREATURE!
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! HOW HUMILIATING! GRRR, I'LL BE BACK! YOU'LL BE SORRY



Uṣūl al-Kāfī, Vol. 1, P. 528

7 IMAM AL BAQIR (A)

THE BEST WAY THAT A SERVANT CAN GET CLOSE TO ALLAH (SWT) IS THROUGH OBEDIENCE TO HIM, OBEDIENCE TO HIS MESSENGER (S), AND OBEDIENCE TO THOSE WITH AUTHORITY...LOVING US (THE AHLUL BAYT (A)) IS FAITH, AND HATING US IS DISBELIEF.

A Bundle of Flowers

NAME
MUHAMMAD

NICKNAME
ABU JA'FAR

BIRTHDATE
RAJAB 1, 57 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
FATIMAH DAUGHTER OF IMAM HASAN (A)

IMAMATE
MUHARRAM 25, 95 AH AT AGE 38

SHAHADAH
DHUL HIJJAH 7, 114 AH AT AGE 57

IMAM AL BAQIR'S (A) LIFE

He is born in the city of Medina.

57 AH

Ashura: he witnesses the murder of his grandfather, Imam Husain (a), and his family at the young age of three, and is then taken captive with the women, children, and his father.

61 AH

Umar b. Abd al-Aziz returns Fadak temporarily to the Ahlul Bayt (a).

101 AH

103 AH

Debates: during his Imamah, Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (a) held several famous debates.

He marries Umm Farwa.

70 AH

His son, Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq (a), is born.

83 AH

Intellectual movement: during this time, Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (a) established strong fiqh principles, quranic tafsir, theology, and clarified the teachings of the school of the Ahlul Bayt (a).

96-98 AH

95 AH

His father, Imam as-Sajjad (a) passes away and he becomes the fifth Imam (a).

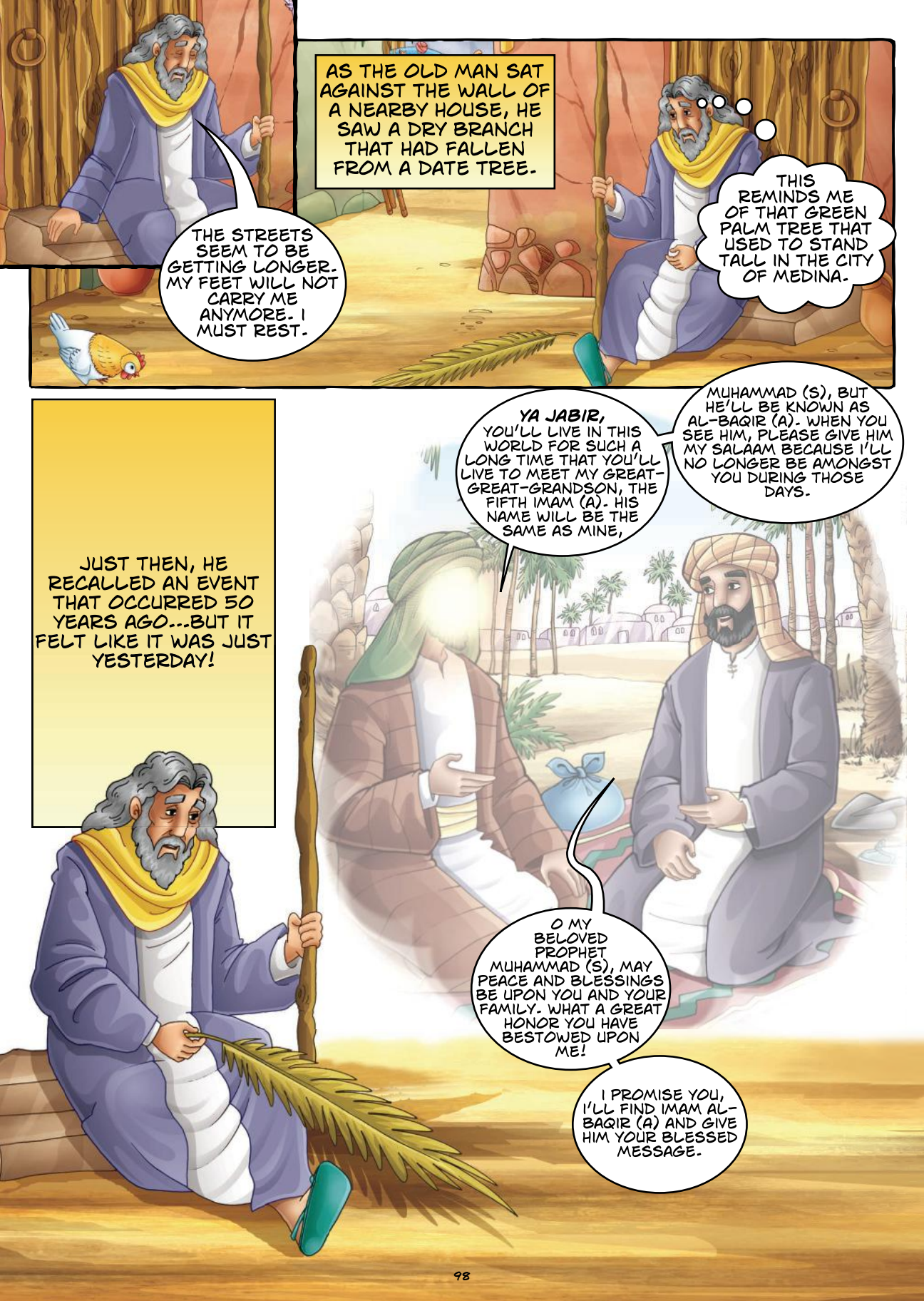
105 AH

114 AH

He raises several children (5 sons and 2 daughters). Their names were: Ja'far, Abdallah, Ibrahim, Ubaydullah, Ali, Zainab and Umm Salama.

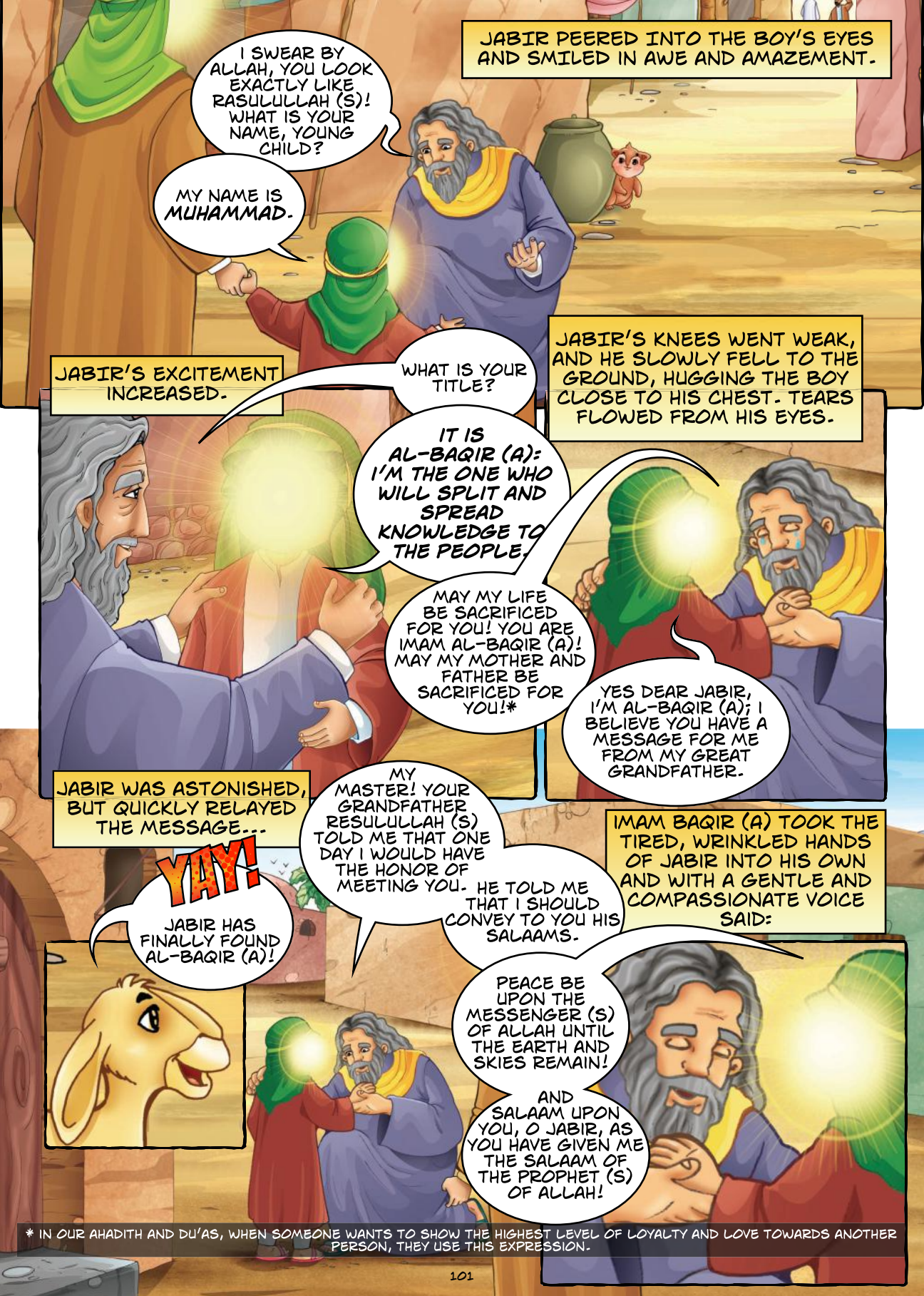
He is poisoned, passes away, and is buried in Jannat al-Baqi in Medina.

AN OLD MAN STRUGGLED AS HE WALKED THROUGH THE DUSTY STREETS OF MEDINA. HE FEEBLY DRAGGED HIS STAFF ALONGSIDE HIM.
I WONDER WHERE THIS OLD MAN IS GOING ON SUCH A HOT DAY!
LOOK HOW MUCH HE'S STRUGGLING AND SWEATING! HE SHOULD BE RESTING INDOORS!
THIS MAN? I DOUBT IT! I'VE SEEN HIM TRAVEL FROM TOWN TO TOWN, SHOUTING OUT SOME NAME. HE JUST WON'T GIVE UP!
HUFF
HUFF
BAQIR (A), BAQIR (A)!
WHERE ARE YOU?! I MUST SEE YOU!
OH, WHERE IS HE? I MUST SEE HIM! I MUST!
THE OLD MAN CONTINUED TO WALK LABORIOUSLY THROUGH THE CITY, LOOKING DOWN EVERY STREET, AND CRYING OUT OVER AND OVER AGAIN WITH A PARCHED MOUTH.

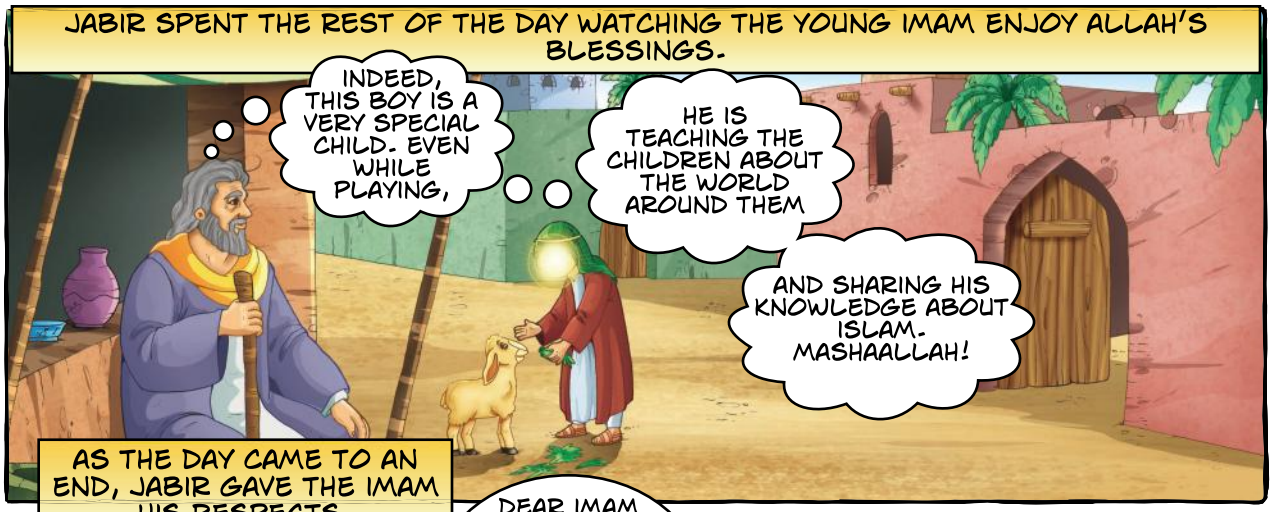

THE STREETS SEEM TO BE GETTING LONGER. MY FEET WILL NOT CARRY ME ANYMORE. I MUST REST.
AS THE OLD MAN SAT AGAINST THE WALL OF A NEARBY HOUSE, HE SAW A DRY BRANCH THAT HAD FALLEN FROM A DATE TREE.
THIS REMINDS ME OF THAT GREEN PALM TREE THAT USED TO STAND TALL IN THE CITY OF MEDINA.
JUST THEN, HE RECALLED AN EVENT THAT OCCURRED 50 YEARS AGO...BUT IT FELT LIKE IT WAS JUST YESTERDAY!
YA JABIR, YOU'LL LIVE IN THIS WORLD FOR SUCH A LONG TIME THAT YOU'LL LIVE TO MEET MY GREAT-GREAT-GRANDSON, THE FIFTH IMAM (A). HIS NAME WILL BE THE SAME AS MINE,
MUHAMMAD (S), BUT HE'LL BE KNOWN AS AL-BAQIR (A). WHEN YOU SEE HIM, PLEASE GIVE HIM MY SALAAM BECAUSE I'LL NO LONGER BE AMONGST YOU DURING THOSE DAYS.
O MY BELOVED PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S), MAY PEACE AND BLESSINGS BE UPON YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. WHAT A GREAT HONOR YOU HAVE BESTOWED UPON ME!
I PROMISE YOU, I'LL FIND IMAM AL-BAQIR (A) AND GIVE HIM YOUR BLESSED MESSAGE.

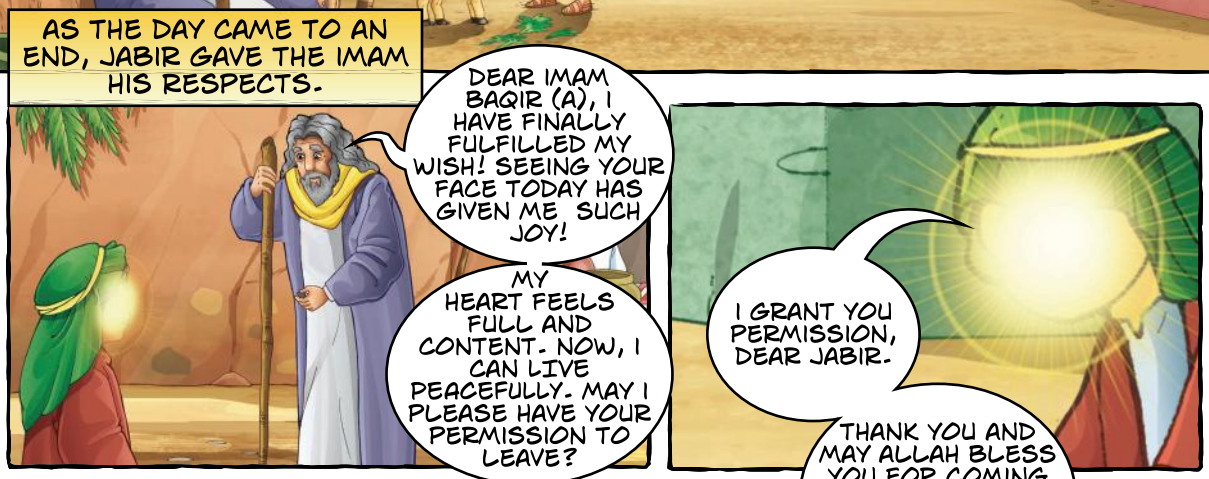
HOWEVER, ON THAT HOT AND TIRING DAY, AS JABIR SAT ON THE STEP, EXHAUSTED FROM ALL HIS WALKING, A WISTFUL FEELING SUDDENLY OVERCAME HIM.
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE HIM! I'VE WAITED SO LONG!
INSHAALLAH THE PROPHET'S (S) PROMISE IS NEAR AND YOU WILL MEET IMAM AL-BAQIR (A) SOON!
I FEEL SUCH A YEARNING TO MEET HIM. EVERY MINUTE SEEMS SO LONG.
YA ALLAH, IS THIS HOW PEOPLE WILL FEEL WHEN THEY ARE WAITING FOR IMAM MAHDI (AJ)?!
YA BAQIR!
YA BAQIR!
WHERE ARE YOU BAQIR (A)? I MUST FIND YOU, O BAQIR (A)!
WITH THAT, A NEWFOUND ENERGY OVERCAME JABIR. HE JABBED THE TIP OF HIS STAFF BACK INTO THE GROUND AND STOOD UP.
I WILL CONTINUE MY SEARCH NO MATTER HOW LONG I HAVE TO TOIL THROUGH THE STREETS!

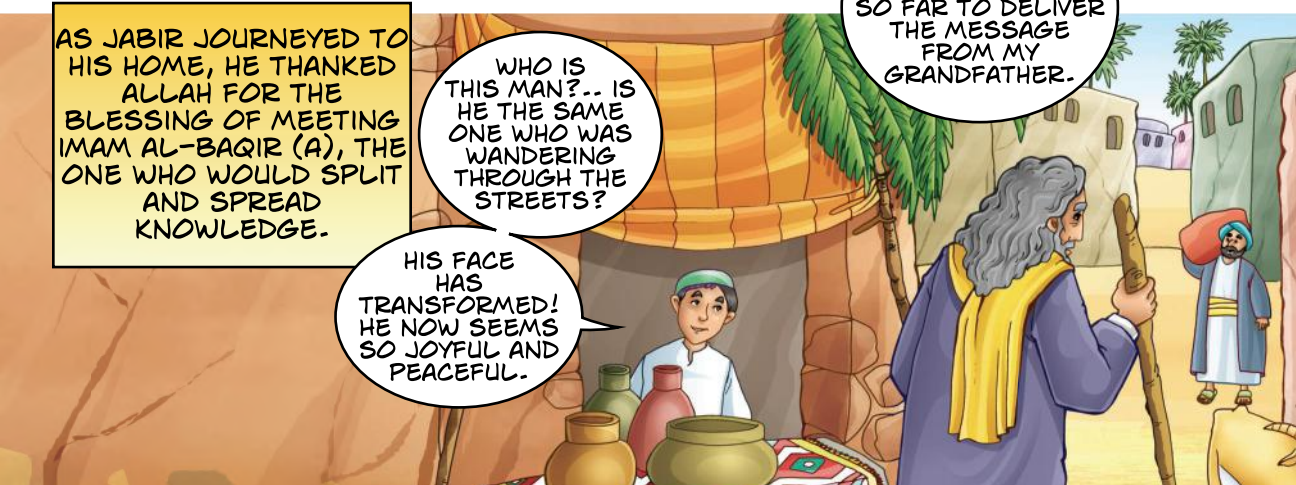
A LITTLE WHILE LATER...
WHO IS THAT RADIANT CHILD? SUCH A BRIGHT LIGHT IS COMING FROM HIS FACE!
AH, COULD THIS BE?! COULD THIS BE THE CHILD I HAVE BEEN SEEKING ALL THESE YEARS?! LET ME TAKE A CLOSER LOOK..
AS JABIR MOVED CLOSER, HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE MAN HOLDING THE CHILD'S HAND WAS NONE OTHER THAN IMAM SAJJAD (A)!
THIS BOY, HE LOOKS SO MUCH LIKE THE PROPHET (S)! I KNOW THE IMAM HAS MANY SONS, BUT THERE IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND SPECIAL ABOUT THIS YOUNG BOY.
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM, O SON OF RASULULLAH (A)! PLEASE ALLOW ME TO KISS YOUR HAND.
I MUST ASK IF THIS IS YOUNG BAQIR (A), THE ONE I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR ALL THESE YEARS. YES, I MUST ASK!
AFTER PAYING HIS RESPECTS TO THE IMAM, JABIR STARED INTENTLY AT THE CHILD...
DEAR BOY, SALAAMUN ALAIKUM! COULD YOU COME HERE PLEASE?
PLEASE DEAR CHILD, CAN YOU TURN AROUND SO THAT I MAY TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT YOU?
AS THE YOUNG BOY APPROACHED, JABIR GENTLY LET GO OF HIS STAFF AND GRIPPED THE BOY'S SHOULDERS...



* IN OUR AHADITH AND DU'AS, WHEN SOMEONE WANTS TO SHOW THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF LOYALTY AND LOVE TOWARDS ANOTHER PERSON, THEY USE THIS EXPRESSION.







AS THE YEARS PASSED, ALLAH BLESSED IMAM AL-BAQIR (A) WITH IMAMATE DURING A PEACEFUL PERIOD. IMAM AL-BAQIR (A) USED THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH MANY MASAAJID, SO THAT KNOWLEDGE WAS EASIER TO ACCESS AND UNDERSTAND BY THE PEOPLE.

BY SPLITTING AND SPREADING KNOWLEDGE AMONGST HIS FOLLOWERS, IMAM BAQIR'S (A) IMAMATE HELPED SPREAD ISLAM FROM THE EAST TO THE WEST. MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM AL-BAQIR (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE SPLITTER AND SPREADER OF KNOWLEDGE.

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 46, P. 223, Hadith #1

8 IMAM AS-SADIQ (A)

BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR KNOWLEDGE, AND PAY ATTENTION TO WHERE YOU OBTAIN IT.

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 2, P. 92

NAME
JA'FAR

NICKNAME
ABU 'ABDILLAH

BIRTHDATE
RABI' UL AWWAL 17, 83 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AL-BAQIR (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
UMM FARWA

IMAMATE
DHUL HIJJAH 7, 114 AH AT AGE 31

SHAHADAH
SHAWWAL 25, 148 AH AT AGE 65

IMAM AS-SADIQ'S (A) LIFE

He is born in the city of Medina.

83 AH

His first son, Isma'il is born.

100 AH

He meets Mufaddal and in four sessions, he narrates and explains the famous tradition on the creation of the world now known as Tawhid al-Mufaddal.

133 AH

He meets Unwan al-Basri and gives him the now famous spiritual instructions on the importance of self-development and soul purification.

138 AH

143 AH

143 AH

Al-Mansur al-Dawaniqi (of the Abbasids) summons the Imam to Baghdad. He refuses to meet him, writing a strong letter disassociating himself from him.

He travels to Iraq for Ziyarah and reveals the location of the grave of Imam Ali (a) which up until that point was hidden.

He teaches thousands of students from all over the Muslim world in his university at Masjid an-Nabi.

100 AH

His father, Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (a), passes away and he becomes the sixth

114 AH

His son, Imam Musa al-Kadhim (a), is born.

128 AH

123 AH

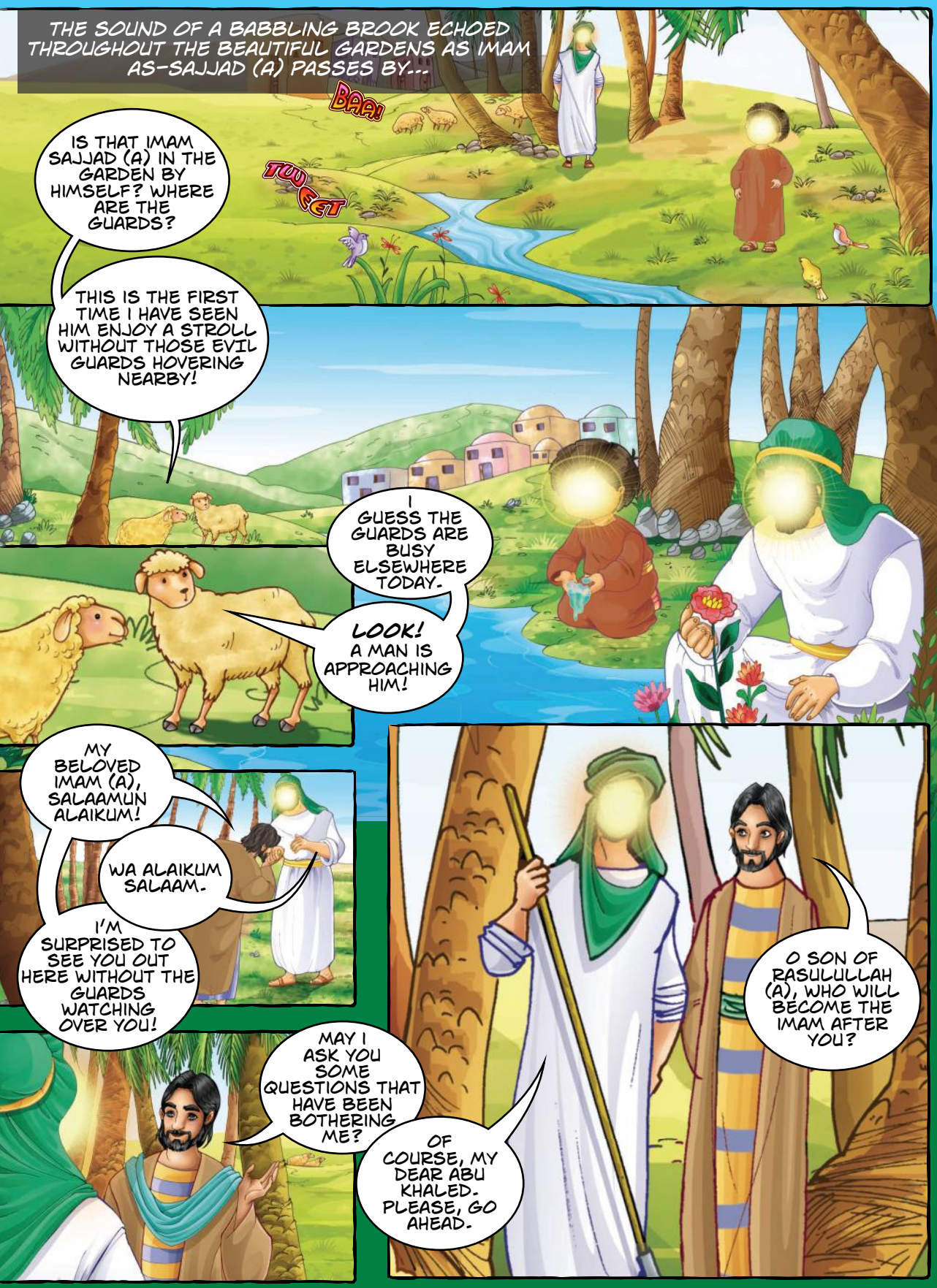
Zayd b. Ali, the uncle of Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq (a), uprises against the Umayyads and is martyred.

145 AH

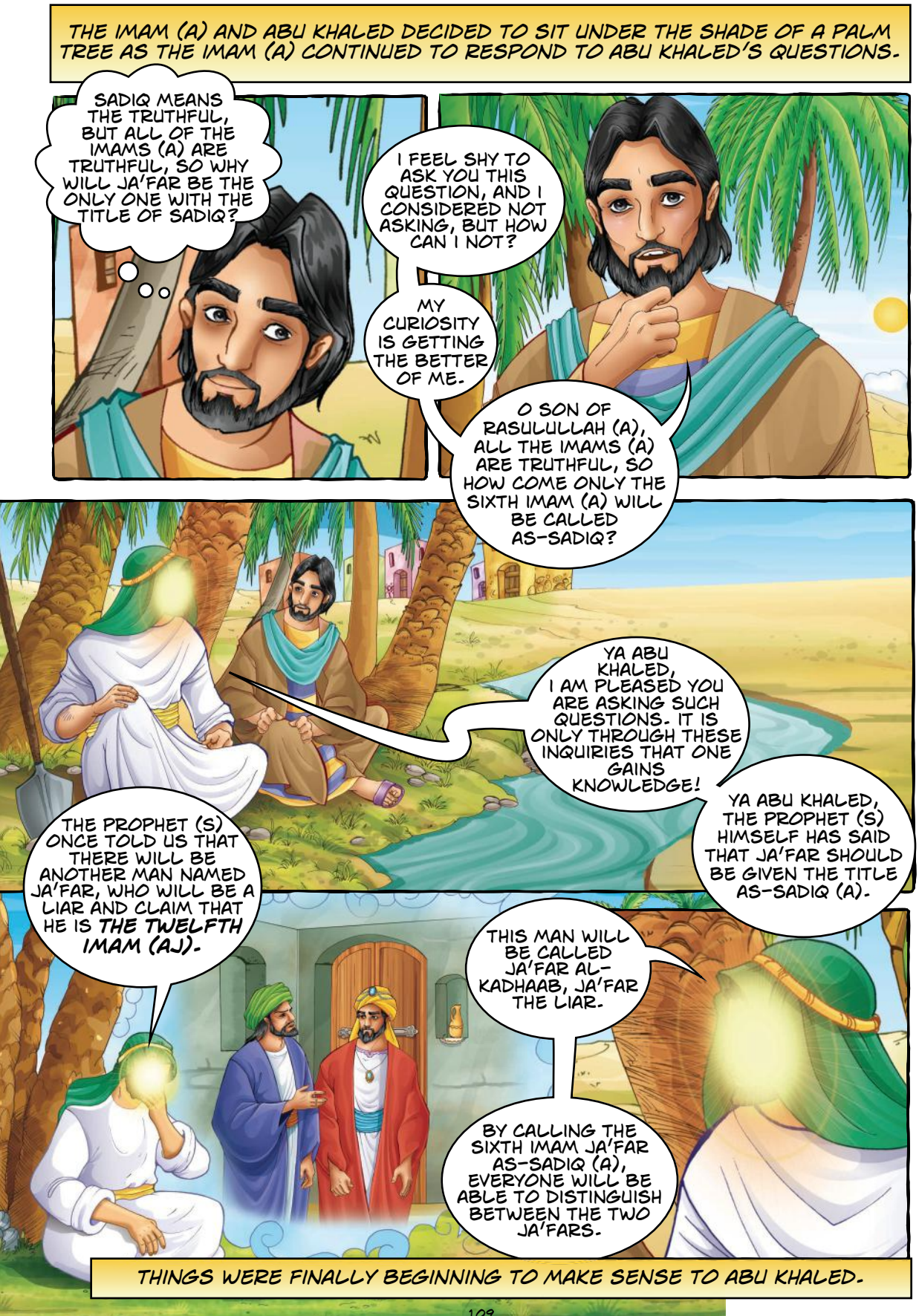
148 AH

Isma'il, the eldest son of Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq (a), passes away. A group of Shias believe he is the next Imam and follow him. They become the Isma'ili sect.

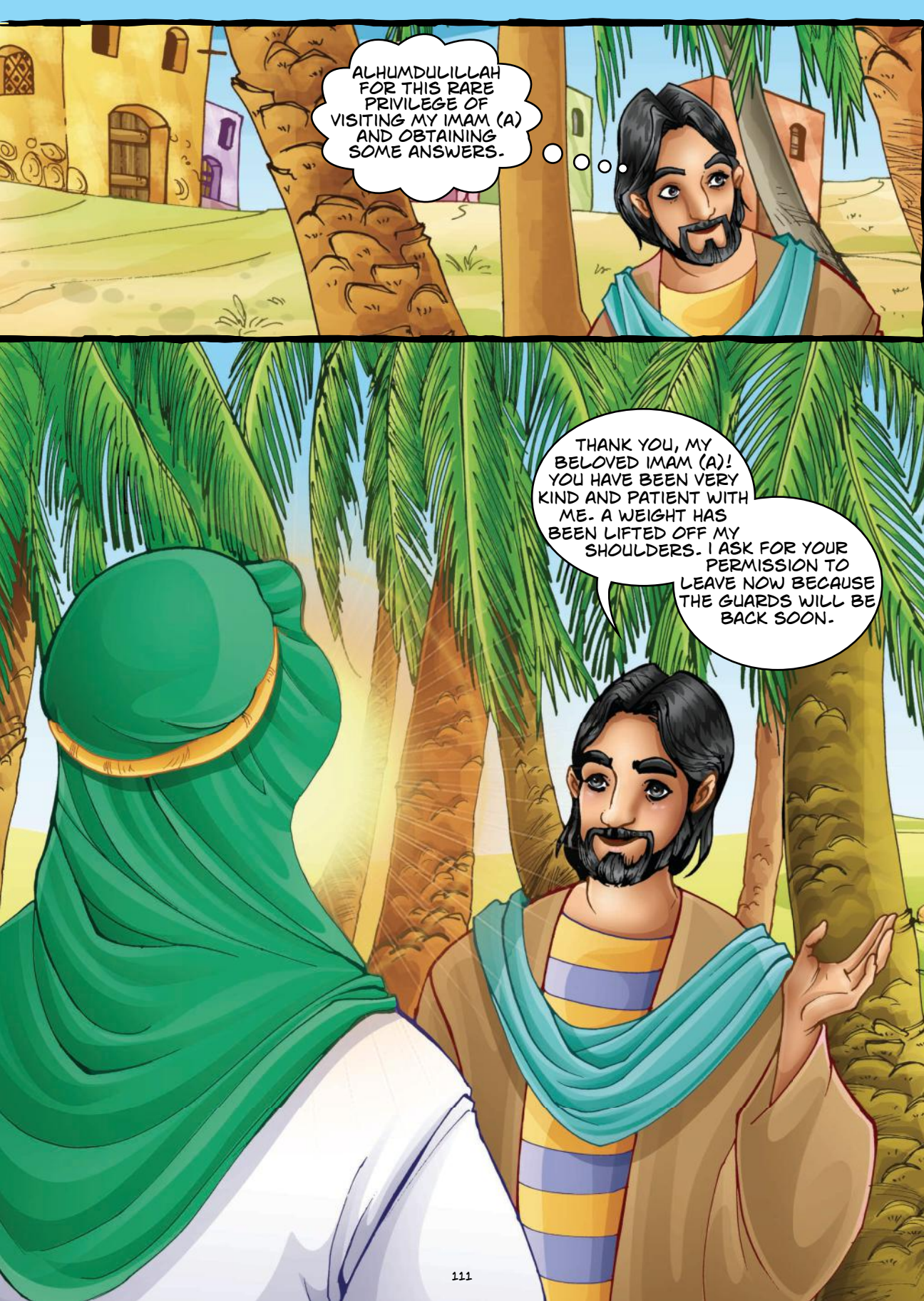
He is poisoned, passes away, and is buried in Jannat al-Baqi in Medina.


THE SOUND OF A BABBLING BROOK ECHOED THROUGHOUT THE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AS IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) PASSES BY...
BAA!
TWEET
IS THAT IMAM SAJJAD (A) IN THE GARDEN BY HIMSELF? WHERE ARE THE GUARDS?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE SEEN HIM ENJOY A STROLL WITHOUT THOSE EVIL GUARDS HOVERING NEARBY!
I GUESS THE GUARDS ARE BUSY ELSEWHERE TODAY.
LOOK! A MAN IS APPROACHING HIM!
MY BELOVED IMAM (A), SALAAMUN ALAIKUM!
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM.
I'M SURPRISED TO SEE YOU OUT HERE WITHOUT THE GUARDS WATCHING OVER YOU!
MAY I ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN BOTHERING ME?
OF COURSE, MY DEAR ABU KHALED. PLEASE, GO AHEAD.
O SON OF RASULULLAH (A), WHO WILL BECOME THE IMAM AFTER YOU?

ABU KHALED FOLLOWED THE IMAM'S (A) GAZE TOWARD A LITTLE BOY WITH A BRIGHT FACE. ANIMALS WERE GATHERED AROUND HIM, GAZING AT HIM IN JOY.
DO YOU SEE THAT BOY STANDING BY THE RIVER? THAT IS MY SON, MUHAMMAD AL-BAQIR (A). HE WILL BE MY SUCCESSOR.
THIS NEWS MAKES ME SO HAPPY! MAY I ASK YOU MY OTHER QUESTIONS, O IMAM (A)?
YES, DEAR ABU KHALED, PLEASE PROCEED WITH YOUR QUESTIONS.
O MY IMAM (A), AFTER MUHAMMAD AL-BAQIR (A), WHO WILL BE THE NEXT IMAM?
THE IMAM AFTER HIM WILL BE NAMED JA'FAR (A).
I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE IMAM JA'FAR (A)! DOES HE HAVE ANY SPECIAL TITLES?
HIS TITLE IS AS-SADIQ (A) – THE TRUTHFUL ONE.


THE IMAM (A) AND ABU KHALED DECIDED TO SIT UNDER THE SHADE OF A PALM TREE AS THE IMAM (A) CONTINUED TO RESPOND TO ABU KHALED'S QUESTIONS.
SADIQ MEANS THE TRUTHFUL, BUT ALL OF THE IMAMS (A) ARE TRUTHFUL, SO WHY WILL JA'FAR BE THE ONLY ONE WITH THE TITLE OF SADIQ?
I FEEL SHY TO ASK YOU THIS QUESTION, AND I CONSIDERED NOT ASKING, BUT HOW CAN I NOT?
MY CURIOSITY IS GETTING THE BETTER OF ME.
O SON OF RASULULLAH (A), ALL THE IMAMS (A) ARE TRUTHFUL, SO HOW COME ONLY THE SIXTH IMAM (A) WILL BE CALLED AS-SADIQ?
YA ABU KHALED, I AM PLEASED YOU ARE ASKING SUCH QUESTIONS. IT IS ONLY THROUGH THESE INQUIRIES THAT ONE GAINS KNOWLEDGE!
YA ABU KHALED, THE PROPHET (S) HIMSELF HAS SAID THAT JA'FAR SHOULD BE GIVEN THE TITLE AS-SADIQ (A).
THE PROPHET (S) ONCE TOLD US THAT THERE WILL BE ANOTHER MAN NAMED JA'FAR, WHO WILL BE A LIAR AND CLAIM THAT HE IS THE TWELFTH IMAM (AJ).
THIS MAN WILL BE CALLED JA'FAR AL-KADHAAB, JA'FAR THE LIAR.
BY CALLING THE SIXTH IMAM JA'FAR AS-SADIQ (A), EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TWO JA'FARS.
THINGS WERE FINALLY BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE TO ABU KHALED.

IN HIS MIND, IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) ENVISIONED A SCENE THAT WOULD LATER TAKE PLACE BETWEEN JA'FAR AL-KADHAAB AND THE EVIL KING.
LET ME EXPLAIN A LITTLE MORE.
YOU SEE, JA'FAR AL-KADHAAB WILL BE FRIENDS WITH THE EVIL KING AND WILL NOT ACCEPT THE IMAMATE OF IMAM MAHDI (AJ).
IMAM AS-SAJJAD (A) PAUSED FOR A MOMENT AND PUT HIS HEAD DOWN AND LOOKED SAD.
EVEN THOUGH JA'FAR AL-KADHAAB WILL KNOW THE TRUTH AND BE RELATED TO IMAM MAHDI (AJ),
HE STILL WILL NOT ACCEPT HIM.
THEY BOTH SIGHED SADLY AND SAT IN SILENCE FOR A WHILE.


ALHUMDULILLAH FOR THIS RARE PRIVILEGE OF VISITING MY IMAM (A) AND OBTAINING SOME ANSWERS.
THANK YOU, MY BELOVED IMAM (A)! YOU HAVE BEEN VERY KIND AND PATIENT WITH ME. A WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED OFF MY SHOULDERS. I ASK FOR YOUR PERMISSION TO LEAVE NOW BECAUSE THE GUARDS WILL BE BACK SOON.

AS HE STARTED WALKING HOME, THE SUN WAS SHINING BRIGHTLY IN THE SKY AND THE BIRDS SEEMED TO BE CHIRPING THE PRAISE OF ALLAH.
WHO IS THAT MAN PASSING BY? THERE IS SO MUCH PEACE ON HIS FACE, I CAN'T HELP BUT STARE... SURELY, HE MUST HAVE BEEN VISITING MY IMAM (A)!
MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM AS-SADIQ (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE TRUTHFUL ONE!
Jilā' ul-'Uyūn, Vol. 3, P. 693

9 IMAM AL-KADHIM (A)

YOU SHOULD NOT HIDE ANYTHING FROM YOUR FELLOW MUSLIMS THAT COULD HELP THEM IN THIS LIFE OR THE NEXT!

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 2, P. 75

NAME
MUSA

NICKNAME
ABUL HASAN

BIRTHDATE
SAFAR 7, 128 AH

BIRTHPLACE
ABWA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AS-SADIQ (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
HAMIDAH

IMAMATE
SHAWWAL 25, 148 AH AT AGE 20

SHAHADAH
RAJAB 25, 183 AH AT AGE 55

IMAM AL-KADHIM'S (A) LIFE

He is born in the village of Abwa (between Mecca and Medina).

128 AH

The Ummayyads decline and the first Abbasid caliph takes power.

132 AH

Haroon ar-Rashid takes power and becomes the caliph of the Abbasids.

169 AH

He and his wife Najmah give birth to their daughter, Sayyidah Fatimah al-Masumah (a).

173 AH

179 AH

Haroon ar-Rashid summons him to Baghdad and puts him under house arrest. He poisons him a few years later.

Isma'il, his eldest brother, passes away. A group of Shias believe he is the next Imam and follow him instead of Imam Musa al-Kadhim (a).

145 AH

His father, Imam Jafar as-Sadiq (a), passes away and he becomes the seventh Imam (a). He continues the work of his father at the university in Masjid an-Nabi.

148 AH

Some mention that he was imprisoned by al-Mahdi, the Abbasid caliph, twice.

160 AH

148 AH

His son, Imam Ali b. Musa ar-Ridha (a), is born.

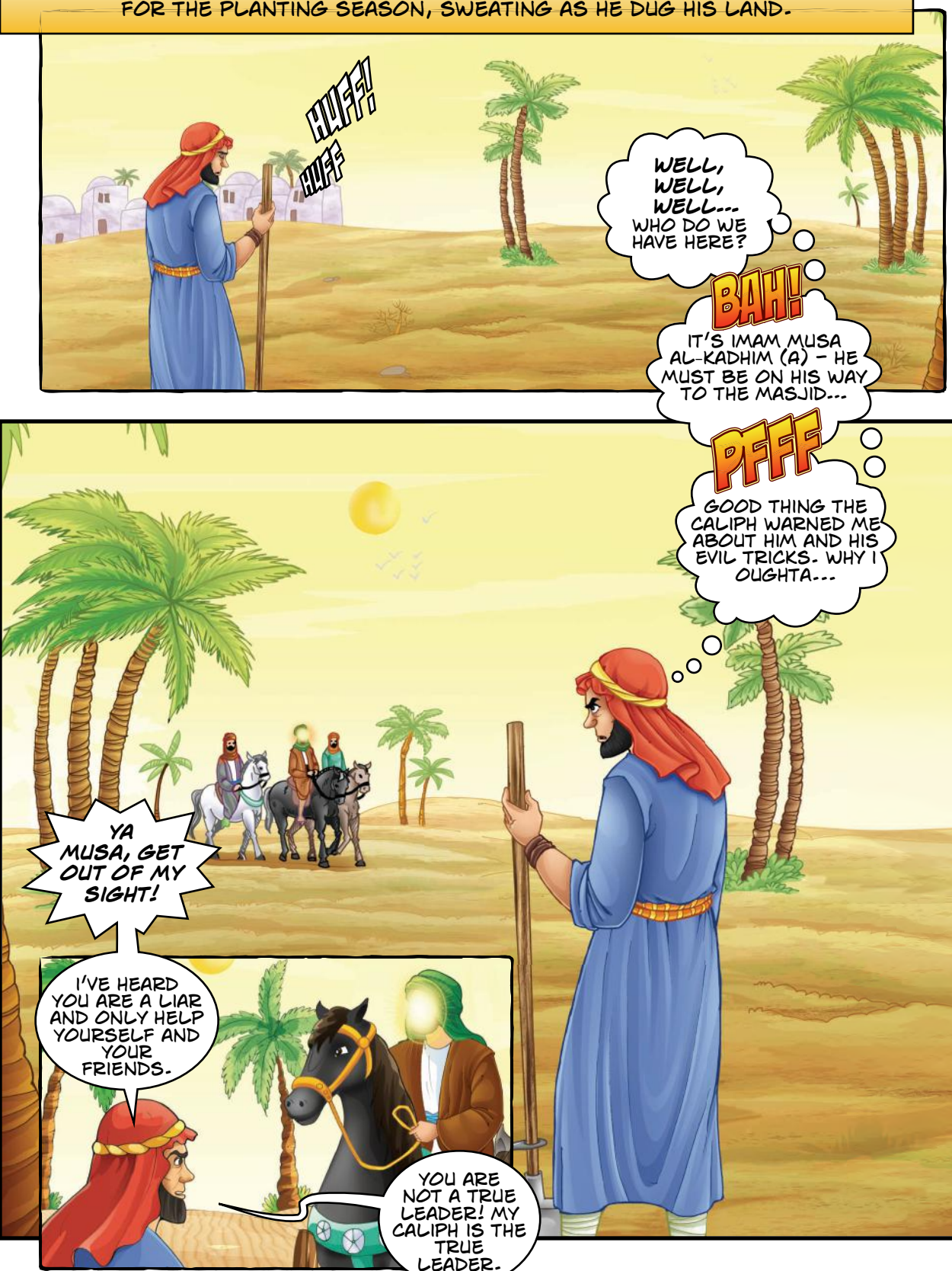
183 AH

He passes away due to poisioning (at the orders of Haroon ar-Rashid) and is buried in Kadhimiyyah.

183 AH

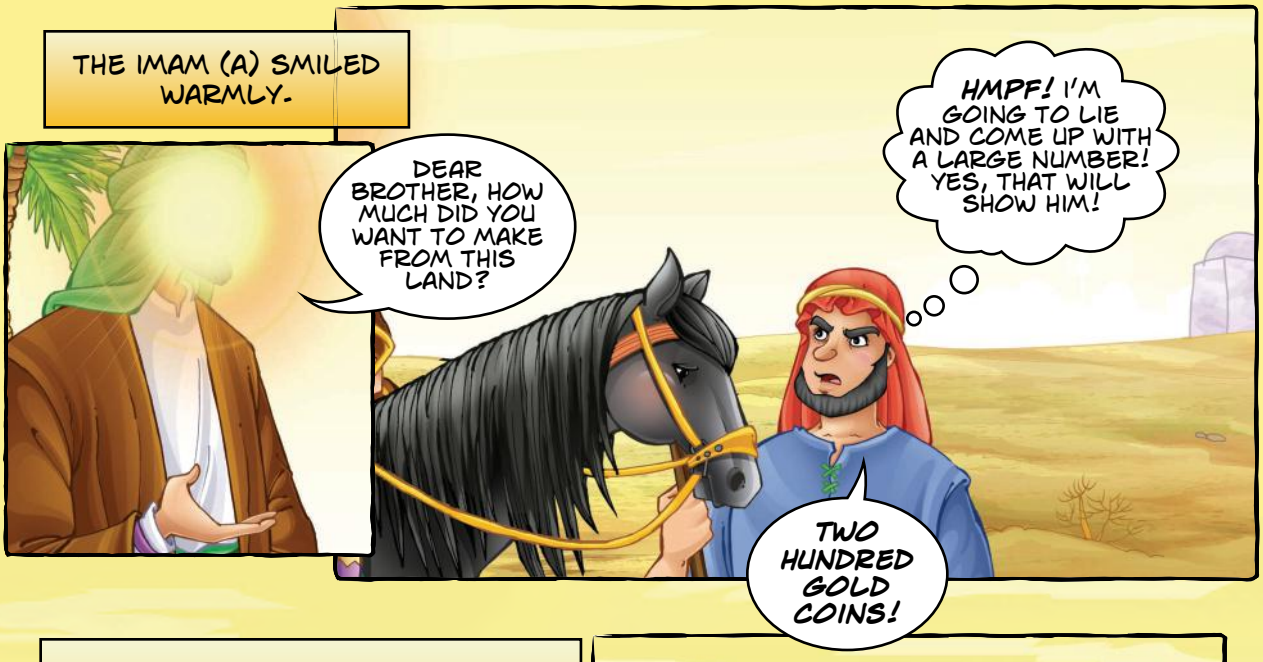
The Waqiffiyyah movement emerges, believing him to be the Imam gone into ghaybah.

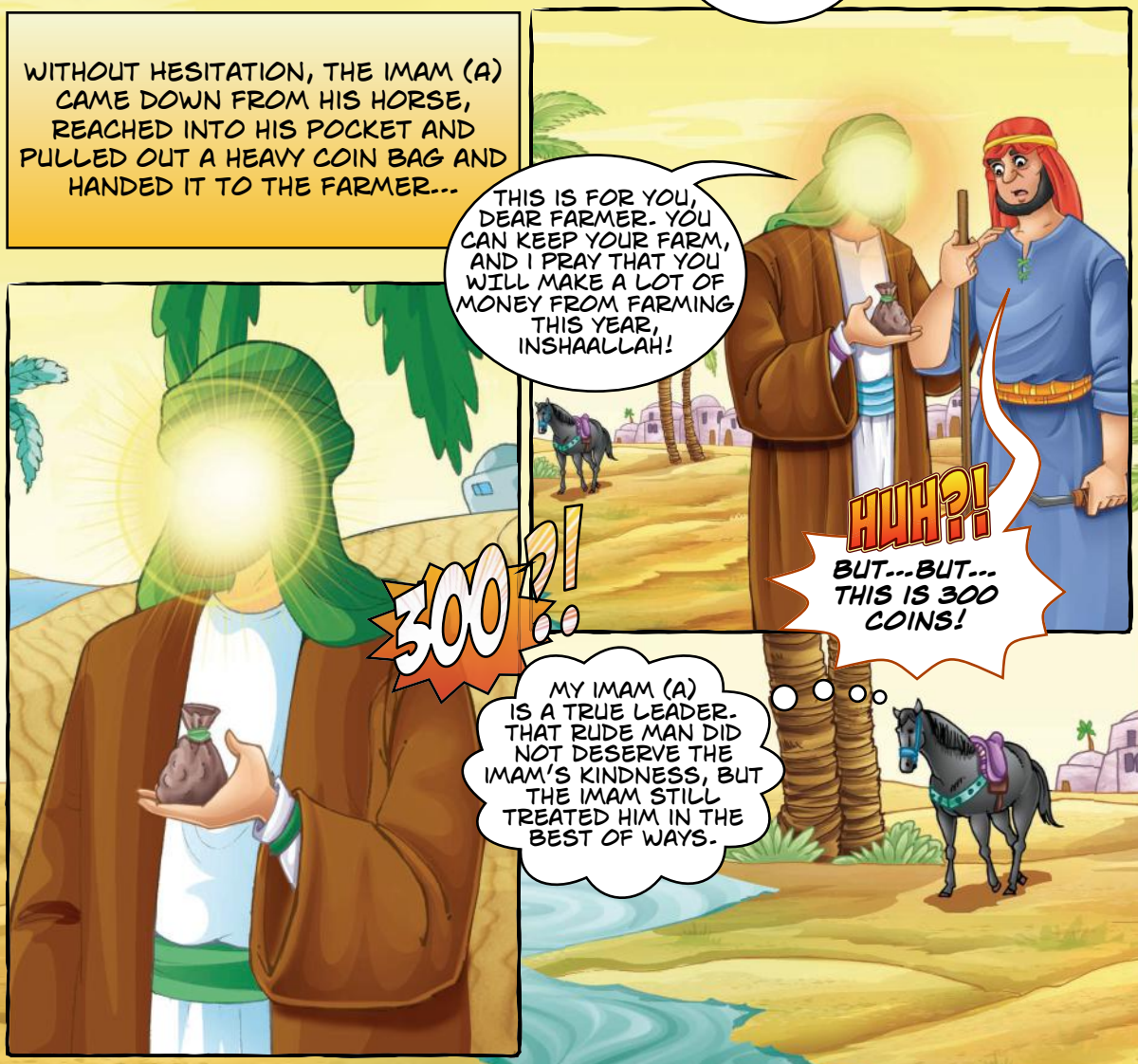
ONE HOT DAY, A FARMER STOOD UNDER THE BURNING SUN. HE WAS PREPARING FOR THE PLANTING SEASON, SWEATING AS HE DUG HIS LAND.



GRRR...
WHO IS THIS GUY?! YA IMAM (A), PLEASE LET ME TEACH HIM SOME MANNERS!
WITH THAT, THE COMPANION BEGAN TO UNSHEATHE HIS SHARP SWORD.
LET'S TEACH THIS SCOUNDREL A LESSON. OH OUR BELOVED IMAM (A), HOW DARE HE TALK TO YOU LIKE THIS!?!
MY DEAR BROTHERS, WHY DON'T YOU BOTH GO AHEAD TO THE MASJID AND I'LL JOIN YOU SOON, INSHAALLAH.
YES, OUR BELOVED IMAM (A). WE'LL SEE YOU SOON, INSHAALLAH.

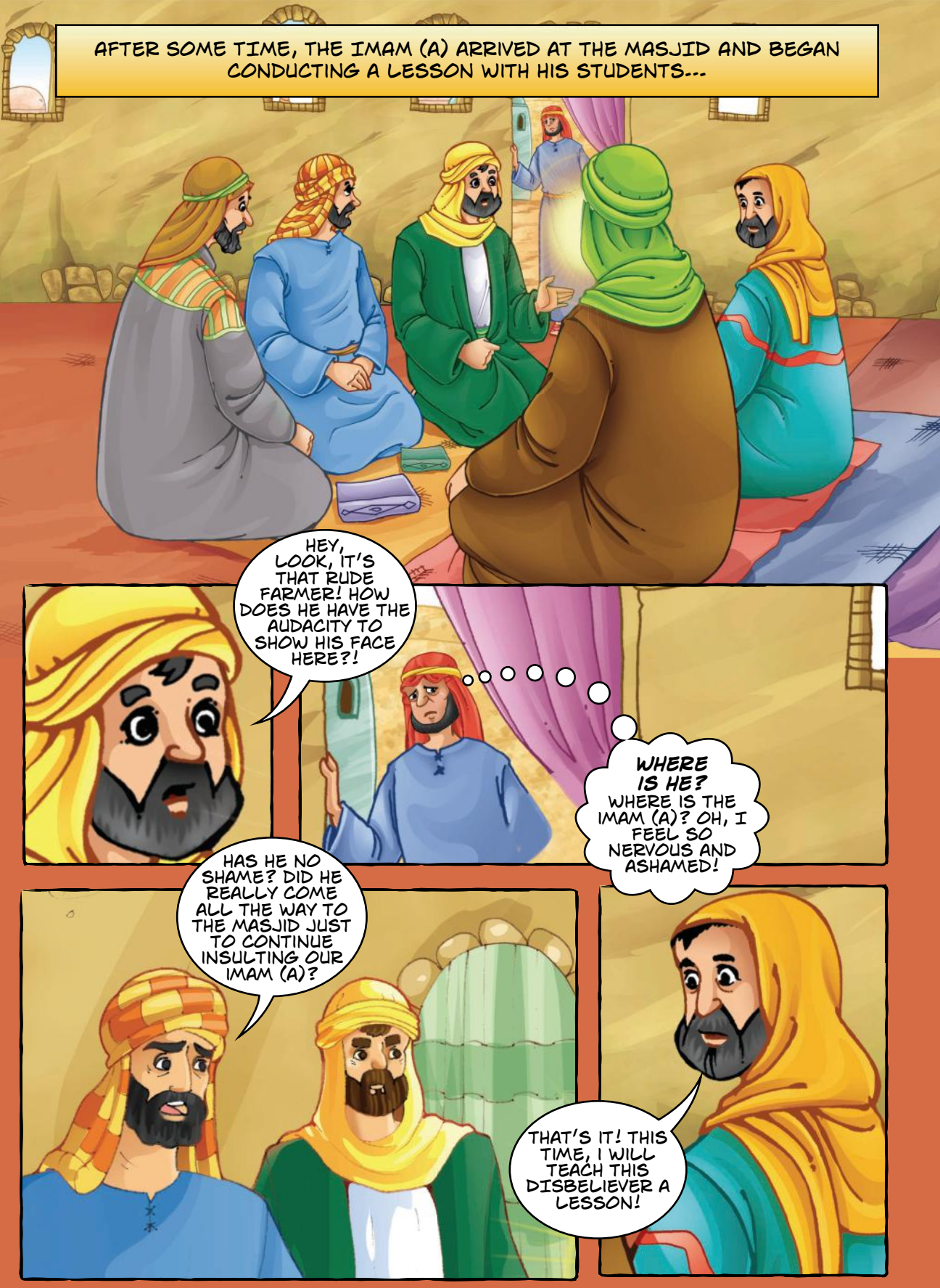
IMAM AL-KADHIM (A) BEGAN TO RIDE TOWARD THE ANGRY FARMER...
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM!
PSH
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO DIGNIFY HIM WITH A REPLY...
UH OH!
HOW ARE YOU DOING, DEAR BROTHER?
I WOULD BE BETTER IF WE WEREN'T IN THIS DROUGHT. I'VE LOST EVERYTHING, AND ALL I HAVE ARE DEBTS TO PAY.
WHY DOES HE CARE HOW I'M DOING?
HUH?!
YES, IT HAS BEEN A HARD YEAR FOR MANY. MAY ALLAH GIVE YOU LOTS OF SUCCESS IN YOUR FARMING THIS YEAR.
IF YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING, HOW MUCH DID YOU BUY THIS LAND FOR?
100 COINS...

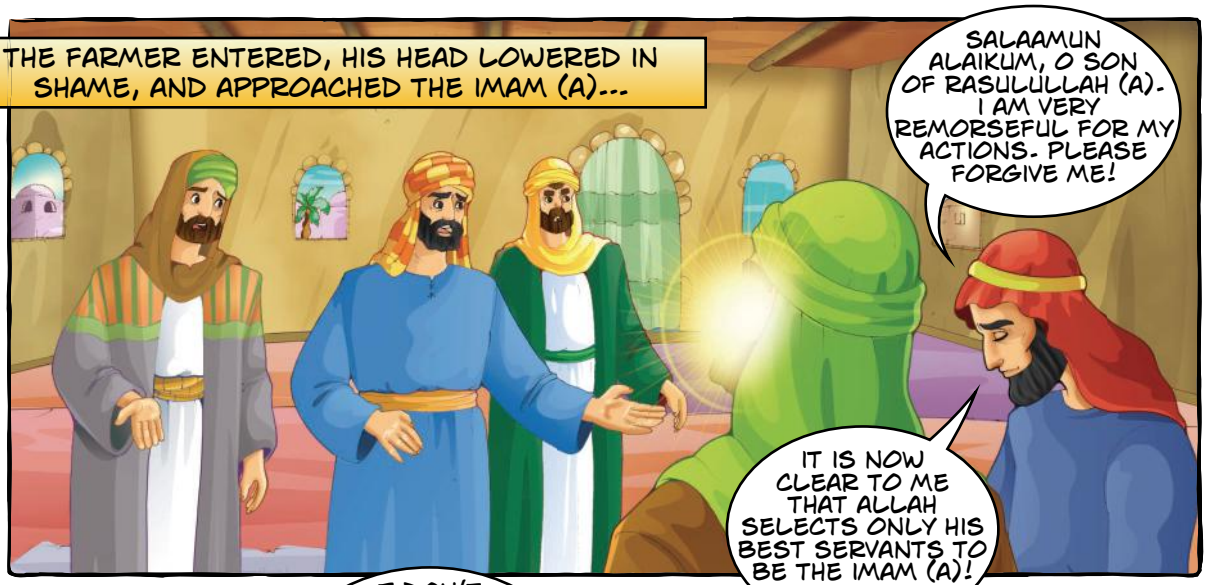

THE IMAM (A) SMILED WARMLY.
DEAR BROTHER, HOW MUCH DID YOU WANT TO MAKE FROM THIS LAND?
HMPF! I'M GOING TO LIE AND COME UP WITH A LARGE NUMBER! YES, THAT WILL SHOW HIM!
TWO HUNDRED GOLD COINS!

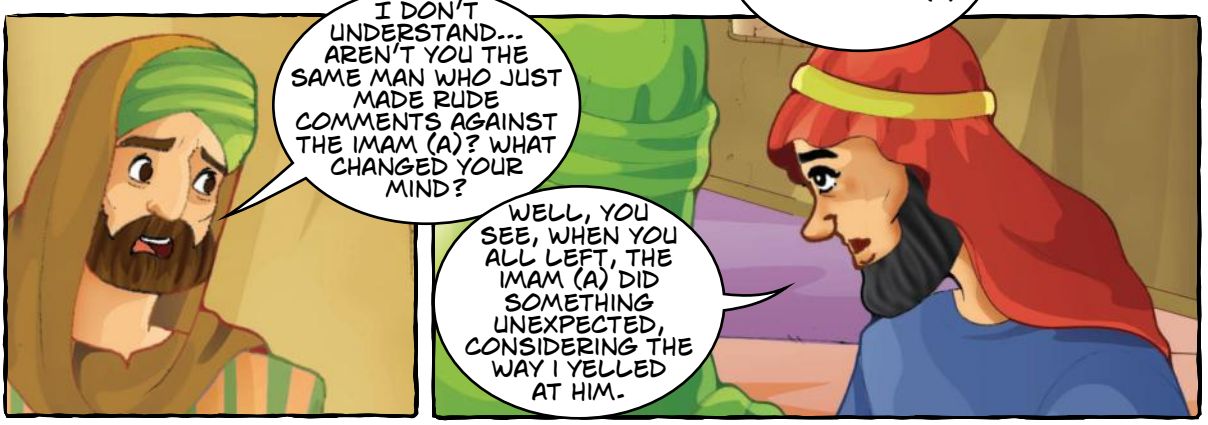

WITHOUT HESITATION, THE IMAM (A) CAME DOWN FROM HIS HORSE, REACHED INTO HIS POCKET AND PULLED OUT A HEAVY COIN BAG AND HANDED IT TO THE FARMER...
THIS IS FOR YOU, DEAR FARMER. YOU CAN KEEP YOUR FARM, AND I PRAY THAT YOU WILL MAKE A LOT OF MONEY FROM FARMING THIS YEAR, INSHAALLAH!
300?!
HUH?!
BUT...BUT... THIS IS 300 COINS!
MY IMAM (A) IS A TRUE LEADER. THAT RUDE MAN DID NOT DESERVE THE IMAM'S KINDNESS, BUT THE IMAM STILL TREATED HIM IN THE BEST OF WAYS.

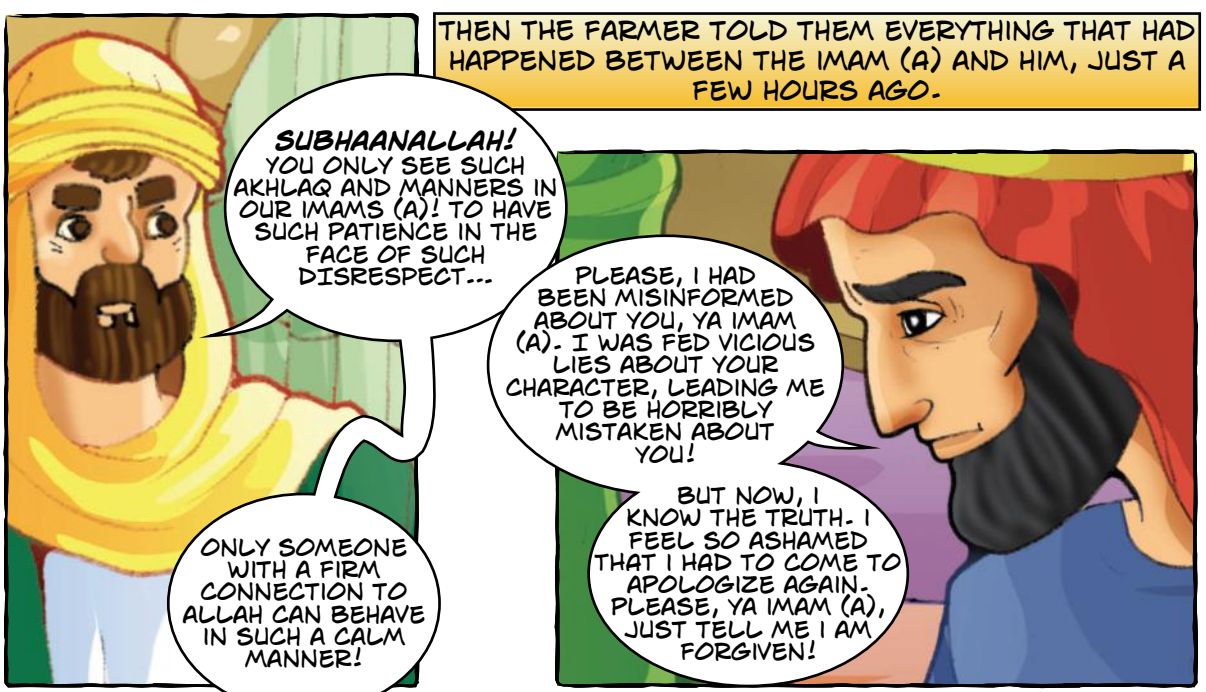
JUST THEN, THE FARMER FELL TO HIS KNEES, DROPPING THE BAG OF COINS. SHAMEFUL FOR HIS ACTIONS, HIS FACE REDDENED, AND TEARS WELLED UP IN HIS EYES. HE BEGAN TO KISS THE IMAM'S (A) HANDS AND FEET.

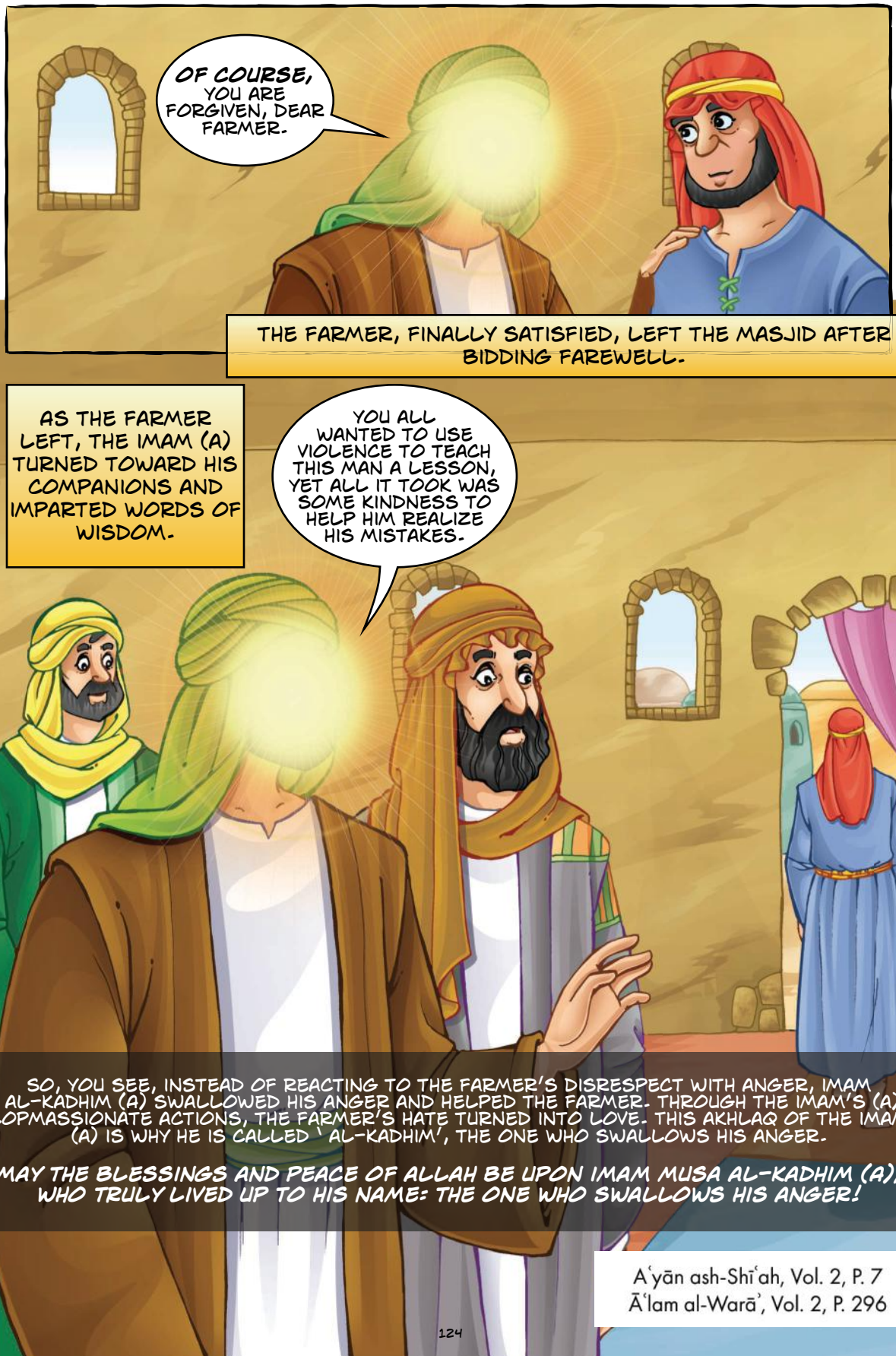
THE FARMER WAS FILLED WITH REGRET AND SADNESS AS HE WATCHED THE IMAM (A) RIDE AWAY.


AFTER SOME TIME, THE IMAM (A) ARRIVED AT THE MASJID AND BEGAN CONDUCTING A LESSON WITH HIS STUDENTS...
HEY, LOOK, IT'S THAT RUDE FARMER! HOW DOES HE HAVE THE AUDACITY TO SHOW HIS FACE HERE?!
WHERE IS HE?
WHERE IS THE IMAM (A)? OH, I FEEL SO NERVOUS AND ASHAMED!
HAS HE NO SHAME? DID HE REALLY COME ALL THE WAY TO THE MASJID JUST TO CONTINUE INSULTING OUR IMAM (A)?
THAT'S IT! THIS TIME, I WILL TEACH THIS DISBELIEVER A LESSON!


THE FARMER ENTERED, HIS HEAD LOWERED IN SHAME, AND APPROACHED THE IMAM (A)...
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM, O SON OF RASULULLAH (A). I AM VERY REMORSEFUL FOR MY ACTIONS. PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
IT IS NOW CLEAR TO ME THAT ALLAH SELECTS ONLY HIS BEST SERVANTS TO BE THE IMAM (A)!


I DON'T UNDERSTAND... AREN'T YOU THE SAME MAN WHO JUST MADE RUDE COMMENTS AGAINST THE IMAM (A)? WHAT CHANGED YOUR MIND?
WELL, YOU SEE, WHEN YOU ALL LEFT, THE IMAM (A) DID SOMETHING UNEXPECTED, CONSIDERING THE WAY I YELLED AT HIM.


THEN THE FARMER TOLD THEM EVERYTHING THAT HAD HAPPENED BETWEEN THE IMAM (A) AND HIM, JUST A FEW HOURS AGO.
SUBHAANALLAH! YOU ONLY SEE SUCH AKHLAQ AND MANNERS IN OUR IMAMS (A)! TO HAVE SUCH PATIENCE IN THE FACE OF SUCH DISRESPECT...
ONLY SOMEONE WITH A FIRM CONNECTION TO ALLAH CAN BEHAVE IN SUCH A CALM MANNER!
PLEASE, I HAD BEEN MISINFORMED ABOUT YOU, YA IMAM (A). I WAS FED VICIOUS LIES ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER, LEADING ME TO BE HORRIBLY MISTAKEN ABOUT YOU!
BUT NOW, I KNOW THE TRUTH. I FEEL SO ASHAMED THAT I HAD TO COME TO APOLOGIZE AGAIN. PLEASE, YA IMAM (A), JUST TELL ME I AM FORGIVEN!


OF COURSE, YOU ARE FORGIVEN, DEAR FARMER.
THE FARMER, FINALLY SATISFIED, LEFT THE MASJID AFTER BIDDING FAREWELL.
AS THE FARMER LEFT, THE IMAM (A) TURNED TOWARD HIS COMPANIONS AND IMPARTED WORDS OF WISDOM.
YOU ALL WANTED TO USE VIOLENCE TO TEACH THIS MAN A LESSON, YET ALL IT TOOK WAS SOME KINDNESS TO HELP HIM REALIZE HIS MISTAKES.
SO, YOU SEE, INSTEAD OF REACTING TO THE FARMER'S DISRESPECT WITH ANGER, IMAM AL-KADHIM (A) SWALLOWED HIS ANGER AND HELPED THE FARMER. THROUGH THE IMAM'S (A) COPMASSIONATE ACTIONS, THE FARMER'S HATE TURNED INTO LOVE. THIS AKHLAQ OF THE IMAM (A) IS WHY HE IS CALLED ' AL-KADHIM', THE ONE WHO SWALLOWS HIS ANGER.
MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM MUSA AL-KADHIM (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE ONE WHO SWALLOWS HIS ANGER!
A'yān ash-Shī'ah, Vol. 2, P. 7
Ā'lam al-Warā', Vol. 2, P. 296

10 IMAM AR-RIDHA (A)

A MUSLIM IS NOT A TRUE BELIEVER UNLESS THEY HAVE THREE VIRTUES:
1) THE QUALITIES OF THEIR LORD, IN THAT THEY CONCEAL SECRETS. ALLAH KNOWS ALL OF THE UNSEEN, BUT HE DOESN'T REVEAL HIS SECRETS EXCEPT TO THOSE WHO ARE WORTHY, HIS CHOSEN MESSENGERS.
2) THE MANNERISMS OF ALLAH'S PROPHET (S) IN BEING EASY-GOING AND FLEXIBLE WITH OTHERS. WHEN ALLAH GAVE HIM HIS MISSION, HE TOLD HIM: PRACTICE FORGIVENESS, ENJOIN GOOD, AND TURN AWAY FROM THE IGNORANT.
3) THE MANNERISMS OF THE IMAM IN BEING PATIENT IN BOTH THE BEST AND WORST OF TIMES.

'Uyūn ul-Akhbār ar-Riḍa, Vol.1, P.256

NAME
ALI

NICKNAME
ABUL HASAN

BIRTHDATE
DHUL QA'DAH 11, 148 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AL-KADHIM (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
NAJMA

IMAMATE
RAJAB 25, 183 AH AT AGE 35

SHAHADAH
SAFAR 29 OR 30, 203 AH AT AGE 55

IMAM AR-RIDHA'S (A) LIFE

148 AH

Imam Ali b. Musa ar-Ridha (a) is born.

173 AH

His sister, Sayyidah Fatimah al-Masumah (a), is born.

199 AH

Ma'mun rises to power. His brother, Amin, is imprisoned and killed.

200 AH

Imam Ali b. Musa al-Ridha migrates to Iran being forced by Ma'mun.

201 AH

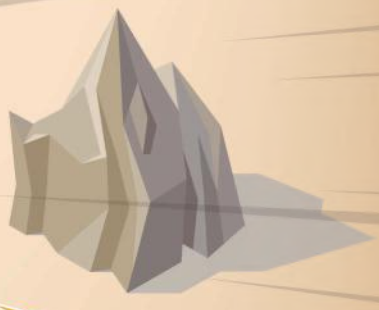
Ma'mun, trying to prove his political legitimacy, forces the Imam to become the crown prince. The Imam is forced to live there and advise people.

183 AH

His father, Imam Musa al-Kadhim (a), passes away in Kadhimiyyah and he becomes the eighth Imam (a).

183 AH

The Waqiffiyyah movement emerges and denies his Imamah.



193 AH

Amin and his brother, Ma'mun, fight for power after their father, Haroon ar-Rashid dies.

His son, Imam Muhammad al-Jawad (at-Taqi) (a), is born.

195 AH

203 AH

He passes away in Khorasan after being poisoned by Ma'mun and is buried next to Haroon.

IT WAS NEARLY SUNSET AND BYZANTINE, THE FAMOUS SCHOLAR OF THE CITY, WAS ANXIOUSLY PACING BACK AND FORTH...

STOMP! STOMP!

I JUST HEARD THAT THE EVIL KING MA'MOON NAMED THE EIGHTH IMAM (A) 'AR-RIDHA.'

WHY WOULD THE KING GIVE THE IMAM (A) A TITLE THAT MEANS 'CONTENT' OR 'HAPPY'?

HMMM!

...AND WHY WOULD THE IMAM (A) ACCEPT A TITLE FROM SUCH A CRUEL KING?

A FEW HOURS LATER...

GAH! I JUST CANNOT COMPREHEND THIS... THERE MUST BE A GOOD EXPLANATION, BUT I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT!

THE LONGER HE PACED, THE MORE CONFUSED HE BECAME.

AS THE DAY TURNED INTO NIGHT, BYZANTINE'S CONFUSION GREW, AND HE BEGAN TO LOSE SLEEP OVER HIS BURNING QUESTIONS.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

I NEED SOME ANSWERS. I WON'T SLEEP A WINK IF MY QUESTIONS GO UNANSWERED.

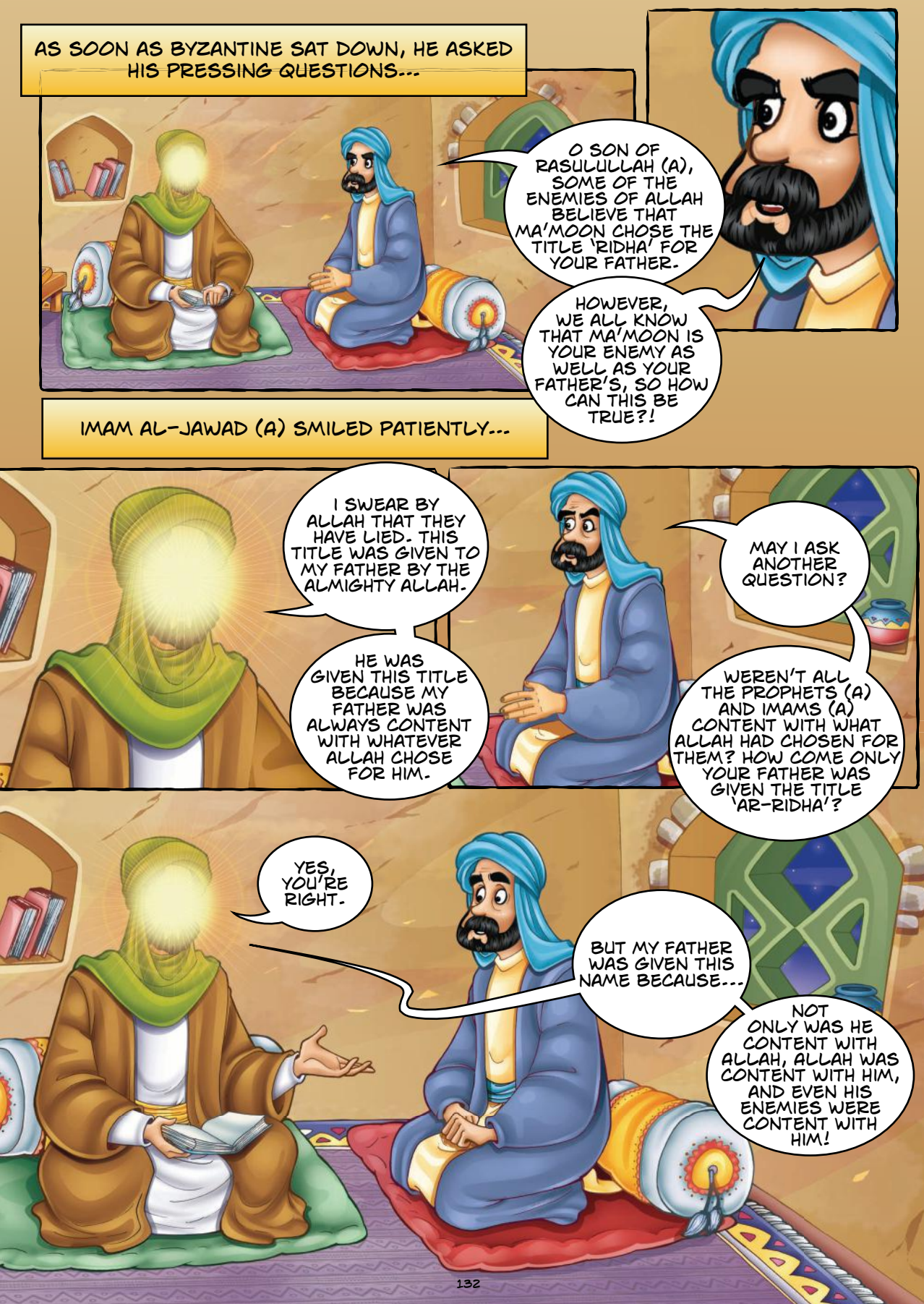
BYZANTINE LEFT HIS HOME QUICKLY TO SEEK HELP FROM IMAM AR-RIDHA'S (A) SON, IMAM AL-JAWAD (A). HE LEFT IN SUCH A HURRY THAT HE EVEN FORGOT TO BLOW OUT HIS LAMP!

WHAT COULD BE HIS HURRY SO LATE AT NIGHT?!

WHY IS THIS MAN RUNNING?!!

BYZANTINE WAS DETERMINED TO GET ANSWERS TO HIS QUESTIONS.

WHEN HE FINALLY REACHED IMAM AL-JAWAD'S (A) HOME, HE HESITATED BEFORE KNOCKING...
WHAT IF THE IMAM (A) IS RESTING? WHAT IF I DISTURB HIM AND HIS FAMILY? MAYBE IT WAS A MISTAKE TO COME SO LATE AT NIGHT.
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM. WHO'S THERE?
OH! ALHAMDULILLAH! THE IMAM (A) OPENED THE DOOR!
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM, O MY BELOVED IMAM AL-JAWAD (A), I HOPE I DID NOT DISTURB YOU!
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM.
NO NOT AT ALL DEAR BYZANTINE, I WAS EXPECTING YOU. PLEASE COME IN!
SOME QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN BOTHERING ME FOR AGES..
THE MORE I THINK ABOUT THEM, THE MORE CONFUSED I BECOME!
PLEASE, GRANT ME PERMISSION TO ASK YOU FOR SOME ANSWERS.


AS SOON AS BYZANTINE SAT DOWN, HE ASKED HIS PRESSING QUESTIONS...
O SON OF RASULULLAH (A), SOME OF THE ENEMIES OF ALLAH BELIEVE THAT MA'MOON CHOSE THE TITLE 'RIDHA' FOR YOUR FATHER.
HOWEVER, WE ALL KNOW THAT MA'MOON IS YOUR ENEMY AS WELL AS YOUR FATHER'S, SO HOW CAN THIS BE TRUE?!
IMAM AL-JAWAD (A) SMILED PATIENTLY...
I SWEAR BY ALLAH THAT THEY HAVE LIED. THIS TITLE WAS GIVEN TO MY FATHER BY THE ALMIGHTY ALLAH.
HE WAS GIVEN THIS TITLE BECAUSE MY FATHER WAS ALWAYS CONTENT WITH WHATEVER ALLAH CHOSE FOR HIM.
MAY I ASK ANOTHER QUESTION?
WEREN'T ALL THE PROPHETS (A) AND IMAMS (A) CONTENT WITH WHAT ALLAH HAD CHOSEN FOR THEM? HOW COME ONLY YOUR FATHER WAS GIVEN THE TITLE 'AR-RIDHA'?
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT MY FATHER WAS GIVEN THIS NAME BECAUSE...
NOT ONLY WAS HE CONTENT WITH ALLAH, ALLAH WAS CONTENT WITH HIM, AND EVEN HIS ENEMIES WERE CONTENT WITH HIM!

HIS ENEMIES WERE PLEASED WITH HIM? BUT WHY?
LET ME TELL YOU A STORY...
ONE DAY, MA'MOON SOUGHT TO EMBARRASS MY FATHER, SO HE INVITED SOME OF THE BEST SCHOLARS TO DEBATE WITH HIM, THINKING HE WOULD LOSE.
HOWEVER, WITH THE HELP OF ALLAH, MY FATHER DEBATED SO WELL THAT EVERYONE WAS LEFT AWESTRUCK OF HIS KNOWLEDGE!
ALL THE SCHOLARS LEFT WITH SMILES ON THEIR FACES!
THEY CONGRATULATED MA'MOON ON HAVING SUCH A WISE ADVISOR, WHICH MADE MA'MOON PLEASED AND CONTENT WITH IMAM AR-RIDHA (A)!

SUBHAANALLAH! THAT IS AMAZING. FINALLY, I HAVE RECEIVED AN EXPLANATION TO THE THOUGHTS THAT HAD ME BURNING WITH CURIOSITY.
YOU HAVE PUT MY HEART AT REST WITH YOUR ANSWERS. THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR WISDOM! I BID YOU A HAPPY FAREWELL!
AS BYZANTINE MADE HIS WAY HOME, THE SKY WAS NOW COMPLETELY DARK.

LOOK AT HOW PEACEFUL AND HAPPY HE IS.
SURELY HE HAS JUST COME FROM IMAM AL-JAWAD'S (A) HOUSE.
THAT IS THE LOOK MANY LEAVE WITH WHEN THEY RETURN FROM THAT BLESSED HOME!
MEOW!!
AHH, BISMILLAH- I'M HOME...
WAIT... WHAT IS THAT?
HMM... I MUST HAVE LEFT IN SUCH A HURRY THAT I FORGOT TO BLOW OUT THIS LAMP.

AS BYZANTINE BLEW OUT HIS LAMP, HE COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE HOW 'CONTENT' THE NIGHT SKY LOOKED.

MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM ALI AR-RIDHA (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE CONTENT ONE!

'Ilal ash-Sharāi', Vol. 2, P. 237

11 IMAM AL-JAWAD (A)

A MUSLIM BELIEVER SHOULD TRY TO GAIN THREE VIRTUES:
1. TO HAVE SUCCESS GRANTED BY ALLAH.
2. TO CRITICIZE ONE'S SELF (TO ALLOW FOR GROWTH).
3. TO RECEIVE APPROVAL FROM SOMEONE WHO HAS GIVEN THEM CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.

Muntahul A'māl, P.229

NAME
MUHAMMAD

NICKNAME
ABU JA'FAR, AT-TAQI

BIRTHDATE
RAJAB 10, 195 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

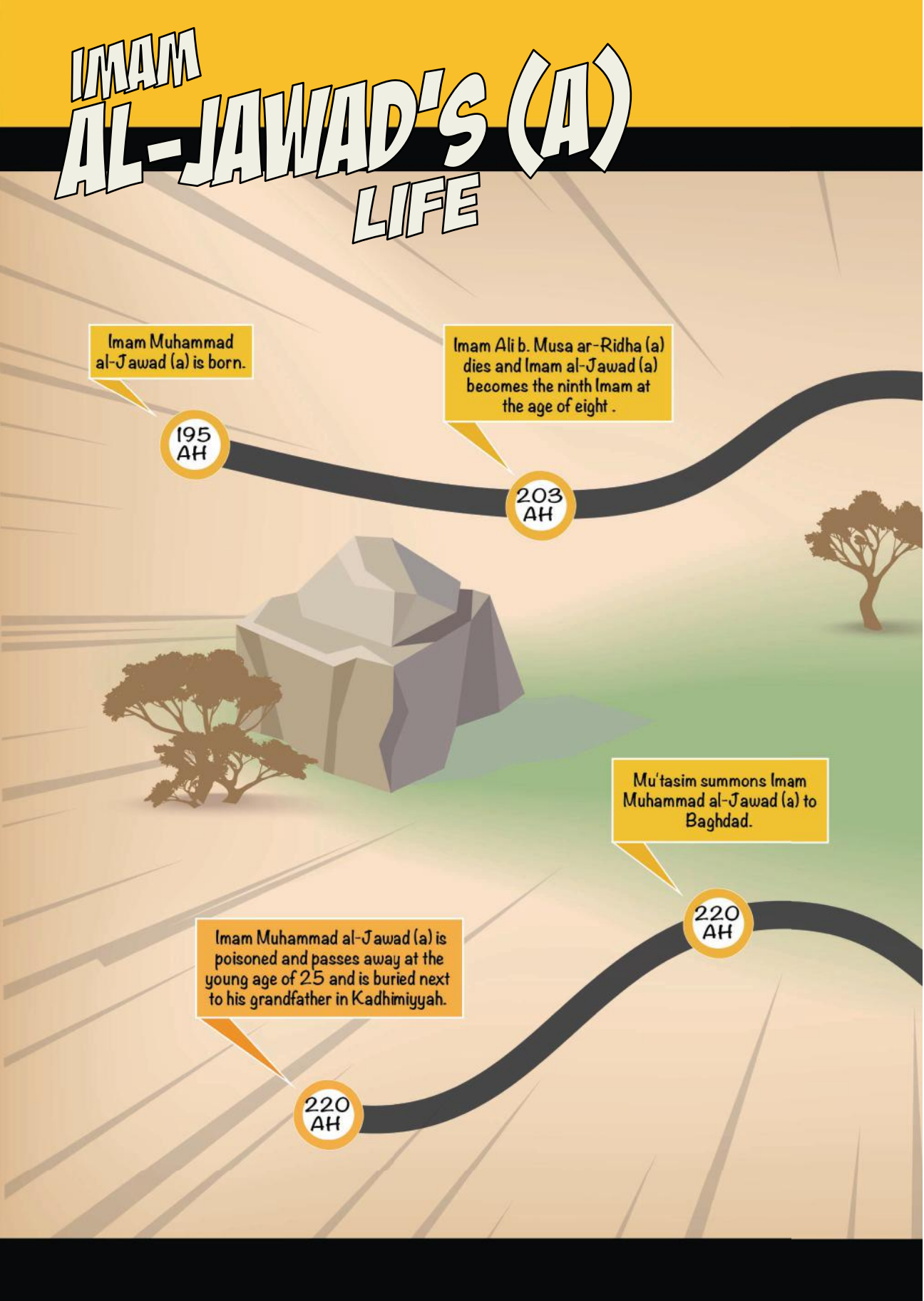
FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AR-RIDHA (A)

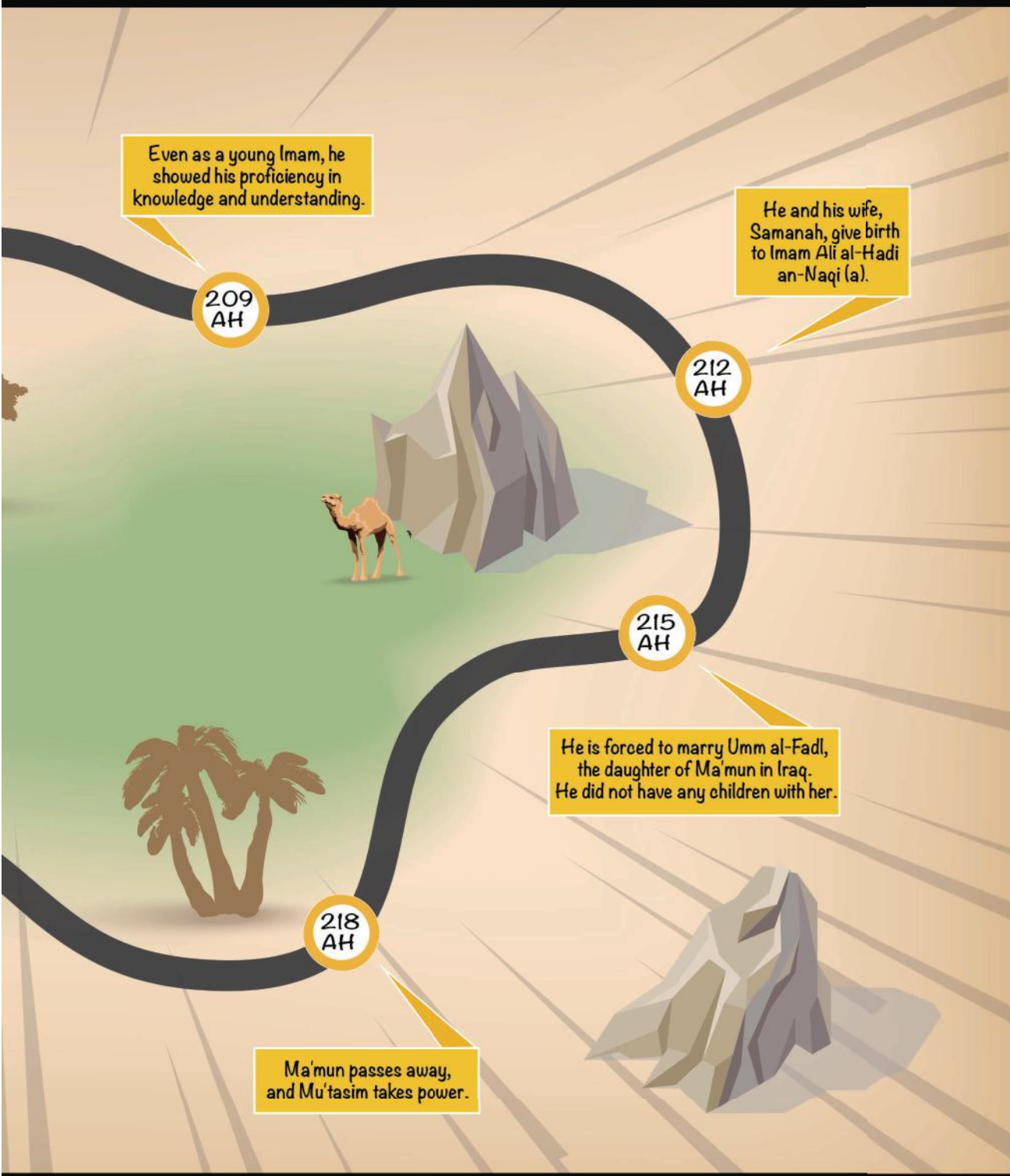
MOTHER'S NAME
SABIKA

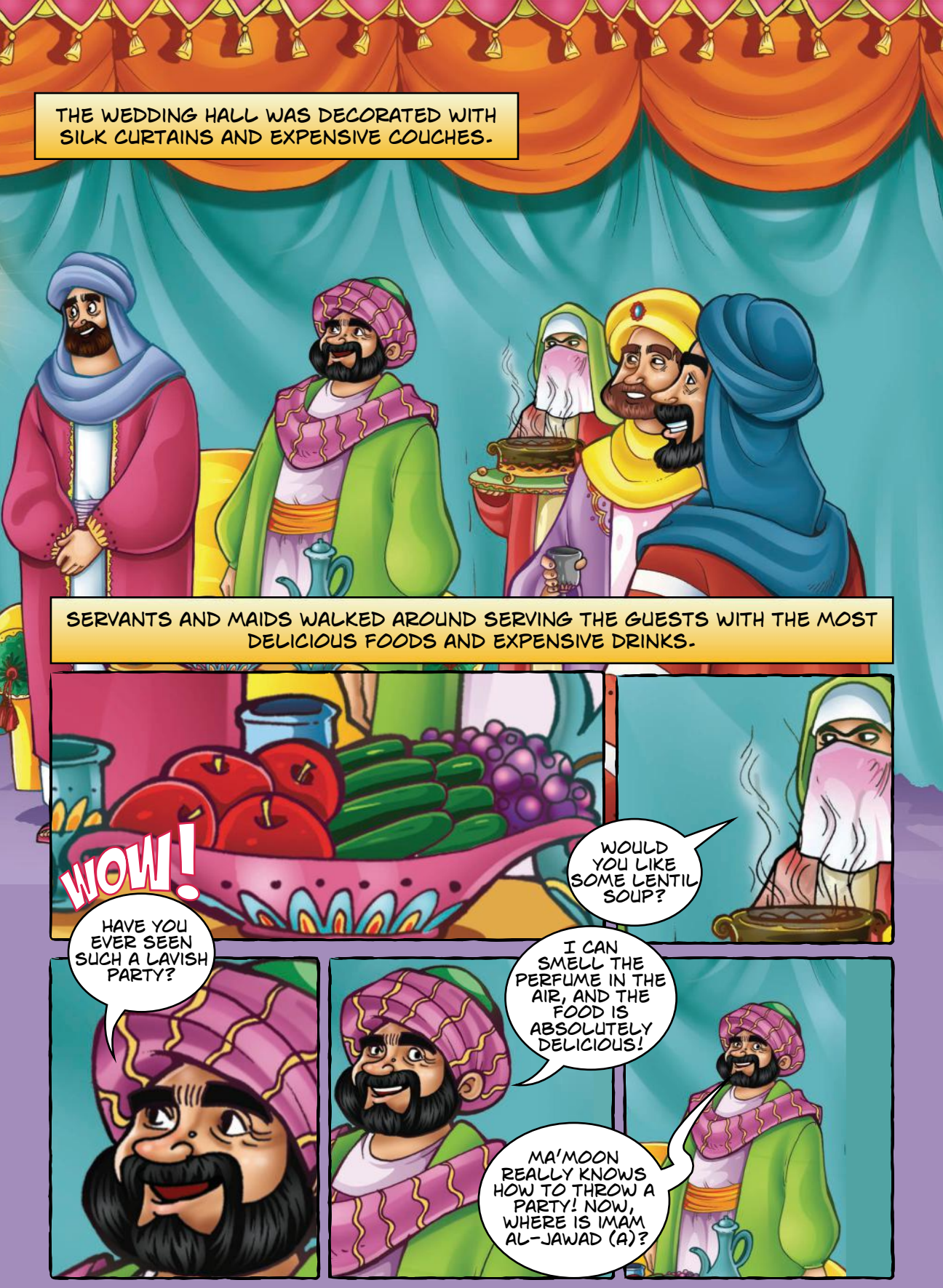
IMAMATE
SAFAR 30, 203 AH AT AGE 8

SHAHADAH
DHUL QA'DAH 30, 220 AH AT AGE 25

IMAM AL-JAWAD'S (A) LIFE




Even as a young Imam, he showed his proficiency in knowledge and understanding.
209 AH
He and his wife, Samanah, give birth to Imam Ali al-Hadi an-Naqi (a).
212 AH
215 AH
He is forced to marry Umm al-Fadl, the daughter of Ma'mun in Iraq. He did not have any children with her.
218 AH
Ma'mun passes away, and Mu'tasim takes power.


THE WEDDING HALL WAS DECORATED WITH SILK CURTAINS AND EXPENSIVE COUCHES.
SERVANTS AND MAIDS WALKED AROUND SERVING THE GUESTS WITH THE MOST DELICIOUS FOODS AND EXPENSIVE DRINKS.
WOW!
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SUCH A LAVISH PARTY?
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME LENTIL SOUP?
I CAN SMELL THE PERFUME IN THE AIR, AND THE FOOD IS ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS!
MA'MOON REALLY KNOWS HOW TO THROW A PARTY! NOW, WHERE IS IMAM AL-JAWAD (A)?

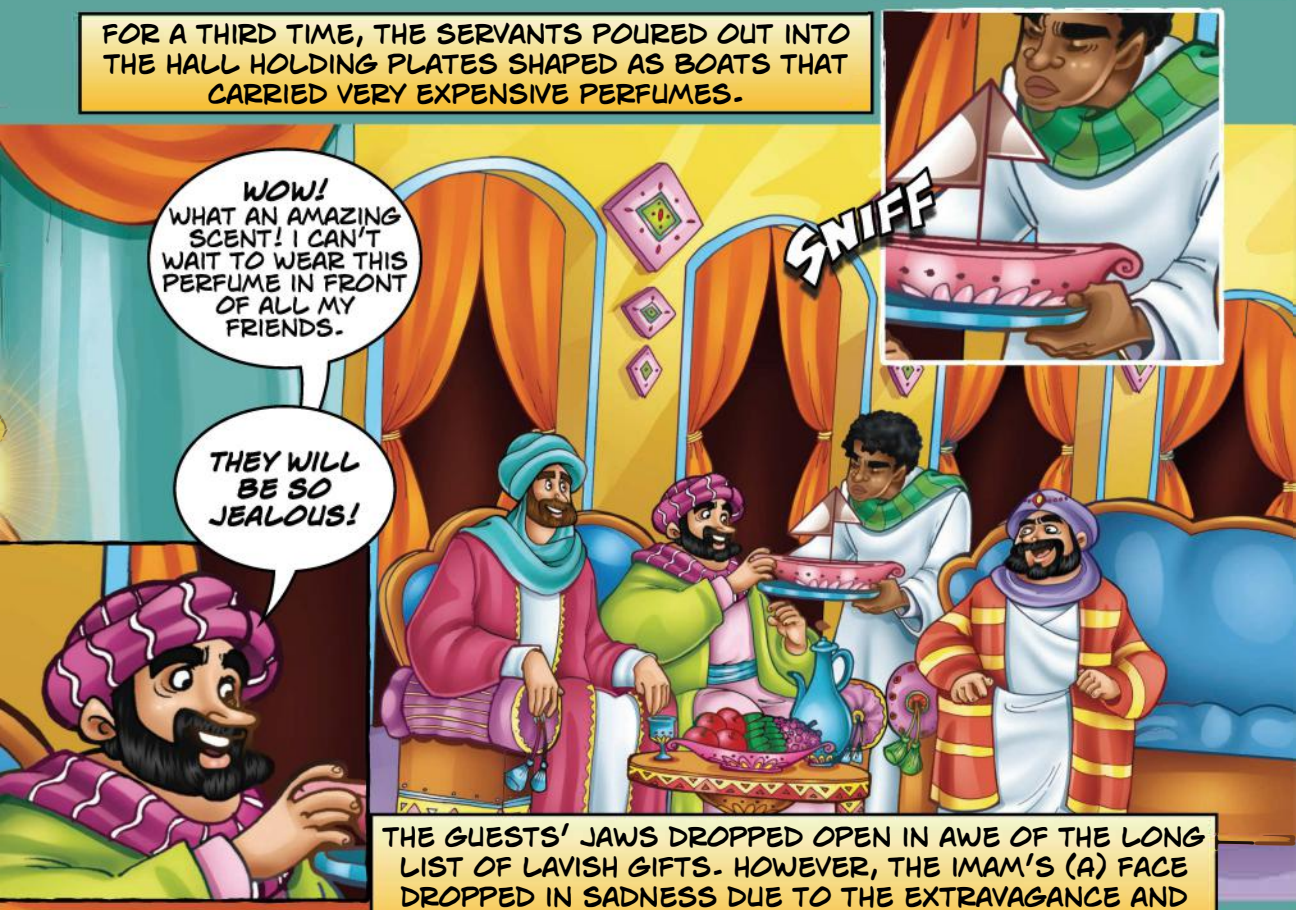
AHA! IMAM AL-JAWAD (A) HAS FINALLY ARRIVED. WHY IS HE FROWNING???
HE SHOULD BE PLEASED THAT MA'MOON IS ALLOWING HIM TO MARRY HIS DAUGHTER! WHAT AN HONOR!
TIME TO PUT ON MY BEST SMILE...
COME, O SON OF RASULULLAH (A)!
PLEASE HAVE A SEAT ON THE COUCH, AND WE WILL BEGIN THE CEREMONY SOON.
WHILE THIS MAY HAVE LOOKED LIKE A FAIRYTALE WEDDING, IT WAS ALL JUST A CLEVER TRICK BY THE EVIL CALIPH.
HMPH... IF HE THINKS I'M GIVING HIM MY BEAUTIFUL DAUGHTER, UMM AL-FADHL,
BECAUSE HE IS THE GRANDSON OF THE PROPHET (S), HE IS SO WRONG!
LIKE THEY SAY, KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE, BUT YOUR ENEMIES CLOSER! I WILL NOT LET HIM TAKE OVER MY KINGDOM!
HOWEVER, HE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT IMAM AL-JAWAD (A) KNEW EXACTLY WHAT HE WAS THINKING...
O MA'MOON, HOW EVIL YOU ARE. I KNOW HOW YOU POISONED MY FATHER,
AND WHAT YOU WILL TRY TO DO TO ME ONCE I MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER.
HOWEVER, I PUT MY TRUST IN ALLAH, AND THIS WEDDING IS HIS WILL.
FOR SURELY, ALLAH IS THE BEST OF PLANNERS.

THE WEDDING CEREMONY BEGAN.
I ACCEPT.
MABROOK!
CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU MA'MOON AND YOUR FAMILY!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
SERVANTS, BEGIN SERVING THE FOOD!
FEED EACH GUEST UNTIL THEY CANNOT EAT ANOTHER BITE!
WOW! MA'MOON IS SO GENEROUS! LOOK AT ALL THIS FOOD!
THERE ARE MORE RICE, MEAT FRUITS, AND DESSERTS THAN I HAVE SEEN IN MY ENTIRE LIFETIME!

OH BOY, I'M STUFFED!
OH, LOOK!
THERE'S DESSERT TOO! OH, I THINK I CAN MAKE ROOM! AAAH!
ME, TOO! I NEED A NAP!
SERVANT, COME HERE! COME HERE!
BEGIN PASSING OUT THE GIFTS TO MY GUESTS! QUICKLY.
ALL OF A SUDDEN, SERVANTS FROM ALL CORNERS CAME OUT IN SPECIAL UNIFORMS HOLDING TRAYS FILLED WITH SMALL GOLDEN BOXES.
OOOH! AAAH!
WOW! WHAT IS IT?! I CAN'T WAIT TO LOOK INSIDE!
MA'MOON IS THE MOST GENEROUS KING! LOOK INSIDE, MINE HAS A PAPER THAT SAYS MA'MOON WILL GIVE ME SILVER!
MINE IS EVEN BETTER! MY PAPER SAYS I GET GOLD! WOW, I'M RICH!

MA'MOON NOTICED THAT THE GUESTS WERE BECOMING JEALOUS OF EACH OTHER, AND SO HE QUICKLY MOVED ON TO HIS NEXT GIFT...
SERVANTS! BRING THE NEXT GIFTS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EARS! WE ARE GETTING MORE GIFTS! WHAT GENEROSITY!
SOON, THE SERVANTS BEGAN ENTERING THE HALL AGAIN WITH TRAYS HOLDING BAGS OF GOLD COINS.
GOLD COINS! THANK YOU SO MUCH, MA'MOON! YOU'RE MY FAVORITE KING!
YEAH, YOU ARE THE MOST KIND. YOU ARE SO GENEROUS.
MA'MOON, YOU'RE A TRUE LEADER!
THANK YOU, DEAR GUESTS, BUT I HAVE ONE MORE GIFT FOR YOU ALL!
THESE FOOLS! THEY HAVE NO IDEA THAT I HAVE STOLEN THIS WEALTH FROM OTHERS JUST TO SHOW OFF...

FOR A THIRD TIME, THE SERVANTS POURED OUT INTO THE HALL HOLDING PLATES SHAPED AS BOATS THAT CARRIED VERY EXPENSIVE PERFUMES.



THE GUESTS' JAWS DROPPED OPEN IN AWE OF THE LONG LIST OF LAVISH GIFTS. HOWEVER, THE IMAM'S (A) FACE DROPPED IN SADNESS DUE TO THE EXTRAVAGANCE AND EVIL INTENTIONS BEHIND THE GIFTS.

AS THE WEDDING CAME TO AN END, THE GUESTS GATHERED ALL THEIR GIFTS CLOSE TO THEIR CHESTS AND LEFT THE PARTY FEELING SO OVERJOYED WITH ALL THEY HAD RECEIVED.

AFTER SOME TIME...

GRANDMA, WHY ARE WE HERE?

MA'MOON KEEPS TAKING MONEY FROM US AND SAYING THEY ARE TAXES!

HE HAS TAKEN SO MUCH FROM US, THAT WE HAVE NOTHING LEFT. WHAT AN EVIL KING!

GIVE US 10,000 DIRHAMS!

HE THINKS IT MAKES HIM LOOK GENEROUS AND KIND, HOW FOOLISH OF HIM.

THIS IS NOT TRUE GENEROSITY!

HE STEALS MONEY FROM US AND LIVES A LIFE OF LUXURY.

THE REST HE GIVES AWAY AS GIFTS TO HIS GUESTS AND FRIENDS!

I HAVE SEEN PEOPLE COME AND GO ALL DAY,

ASKING THE IMAM (A) FOR HELP, AND EACH TIME, THE IMAM (A) HAS NEVER DISAPPOINTED THEM.

EACH ONE HAS LEFT PLEASED WITH HIM AND HE HAS GIVEN THEM WHATEVER HE HAS.

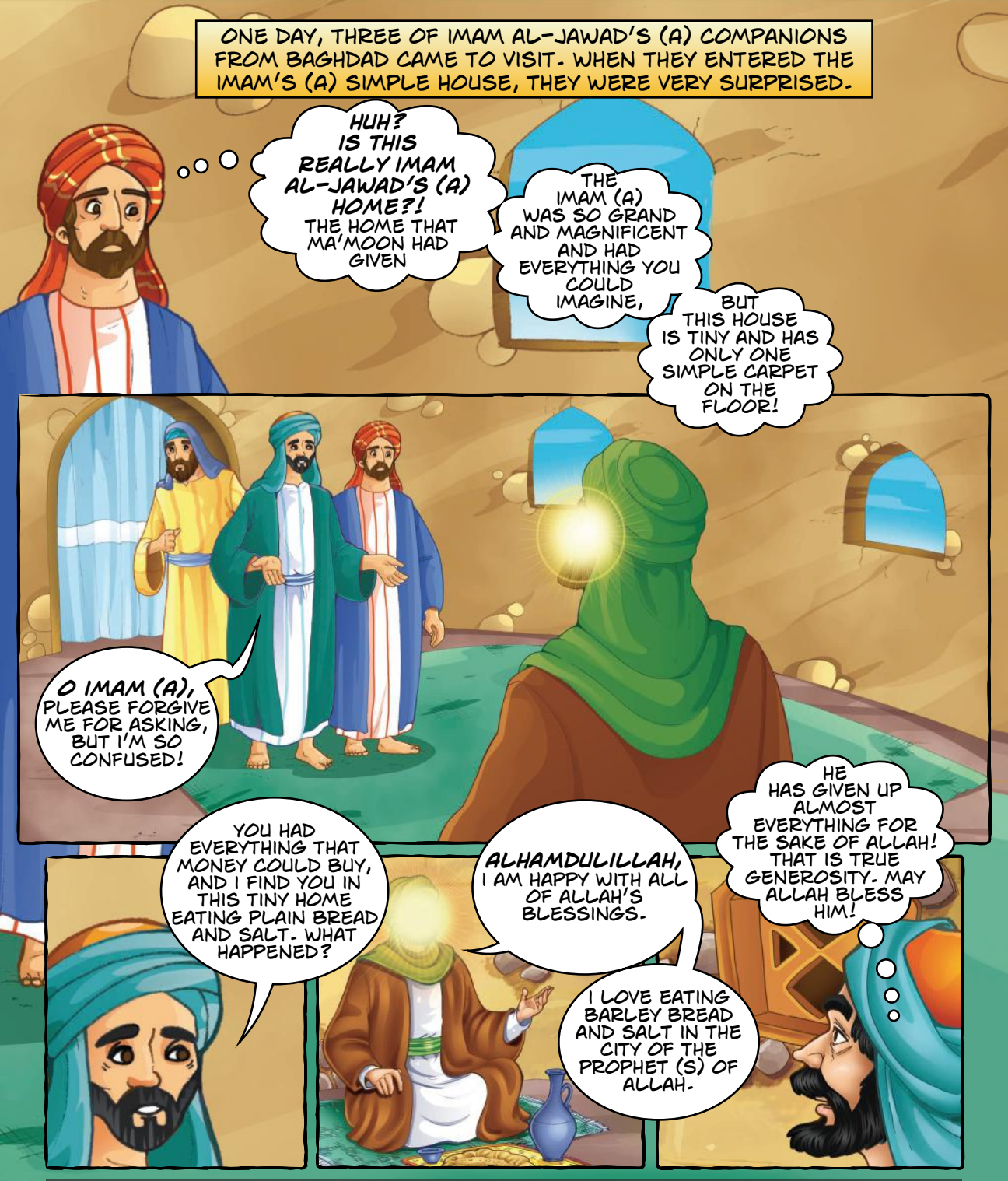
YES! IN FACT, WHEN THE IMAM (A) WENT TO MECCA, HE TOOK ALL OF HIS WEALTH AND DIVIDED IT AMONGST THE NEEDY PEOPLE.

HE LEFT THE LAVISH CASTLE THAT MA'MOON HAD GIVEN HIM, AND INSTEAD HE FOUND A SMALL AND SIMPLE HOME TO LIVE IN.

AFTER HAJJ, HE LEFT BAGHDAD AND RETURNED TO HIS OWN HOMETOWN, MEDINA.

HE WAS HAPPIER IN THIS SMALL HOUSE, AND SPENT ALL HIS TIME IN WORSHIP OF ALLAH,

AND HELPING OTHERS.



THIS GENEROSITY WAS THE REASON THAT THE IMAM (A) WAS GIVEN THE TITLE AL-JAWAD, THE GENEROUS. IMAM AL-JAWAD (A) GAVE UP THE LAVISH LIFESTYLE HE WAS OFFERED AND INSTEAD CHOSE TO LIVE A HUMBLE LIFE FOR THE SAKE OF ALLAH. HOW MANY OF US THINK WE COULD DO THE SAME?

MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM AL-JAWAD (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE GENEROUS!

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 50, P. 10

12 IMAM AL-HADI (A)

IN THIS WORLD, PEOPLE ARE RESPECTED FOR HAVING MONEY AND BEING RICH. IN THE HEREAFTER, PEOPLE WILL BE RESPECTED FOR THEIR GREAT DEEDS!

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 78, P. 368

NAME
ALI

NICKNAME
ABUL HASAN, AN-NAQI

BIRTHDATE
DHUL HIJJAH 15, 212 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AL-JAWAD (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
SAMANAH

IMAMATE
DHUL QA'DAH 30, 220 AH AT AGE 8

SHAHADAH
RAJAB 3, 254 AH AT AGE 42

IMAM AL-HADI'S (A) LIFE

212 AH
Imam al-Hadi (a) is born near Medina.

220 AH
Imam al-Jawad (a) passes away and Imam al-Hadi (a) becomes the tenth Imam.

245 AH
Imam Ali al-Hadi (a) teaches the very important Ziyarat al-Jami'a al-Kabira.

247 AH
Mutawakkil is murdered by his son Muntasir who then takes the caliphate.

254 AH
Imam an-Naqi (a) is poisoned, passes away, and is buried in his home in Samarra.

1427 AH
Terrorists bomb and destroy his and his son's shrine in Samarra.

His son, Imam Hasan al-Askari (a), is born.

232 AH

232 AH

Mutawakkil comes to power.

233 AH

Under suspicion for anti-government activities, Imam al-Hadi (a) is summoned to Samarra and forced to live there for the rest of his life.

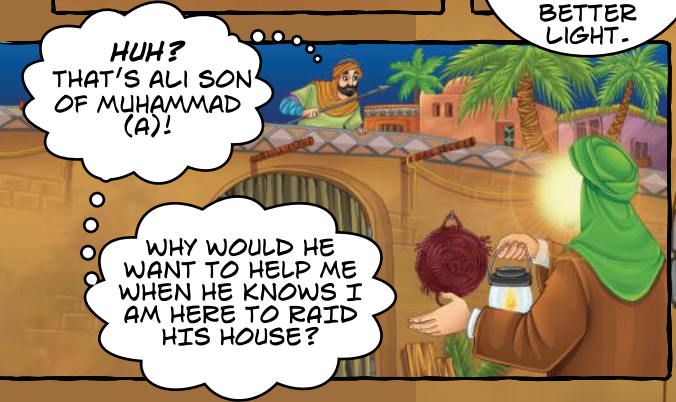
236 AH

At the order of Mutawakkil, the shrine of Imam Husain (a) is destroyed and visiting shrines is banned.

SLURP
IN AN EXTRAVAGANT PALACE, A LARGE CALIPH SAT IN HIS LOFTY THRONE, DRINKING GOBLETS OF WINE. NEXT TO HIM STOOD HIS TRUSTED WAZIR, WHO WAS A MEAN AND CORRUPT MAN.
MU TAWAKKIL, MY MASTER, I AM SURE THERE ARE WEAPONS AND MONEY IN HIS HOUSE–LOTS OF MONEY!
HE IS DEFINITELY PLANNING SOMETHING AGAINST YOU!
WHAT?! HOW DARE HE! GUARDS!
THUD THUD THUD
OW! I SHOULDN'T HAVE BANGED MY HAND SO HARD.
GO TO THE HOUSE OF ALI SON OF MOHAMMAD (A) THIS INSTANT!
RANSACK HIS HOME AND BRING ME ALL OF HIS COINS AND WEAPONS!
LEAVE NOTHING UNTOUCHED OR UNTURNED.
I WANT EVERYTHING HE OWNS!
FINALLY! THIS WILL HUMILIATE ABUL HASAN (A) AND THE CALIPH WILL FINALLY GIVE ME THE RESPECT AND POWER I DESERVE!

B-
-BUT, MY MASTER, IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
DON'T QUESTION ME! DO WHAT YOU'RE TOLD.
GO NOW!
Y... YES SIR!
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
YIKES, SOMEONE DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP LAST NIGHT!
BAH! HE IS TRYING TO KEEP MONEY FROM ME? HAH, WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
GULP! AAAHH!
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT MY LOYAL GUARDS WILL BRING BACK FOR ME!

MEANWHILE, THE SOLDIERS OF THE CALIPH RUSHED TOWARD **IMAM ALI AL-HADI'S (A)** HOUSE, AND ONE EVEN CLIMBED OVER THE WALL. HOWEVER, HE SOON REALIZED THAT WASN'T SUCH A GOOD IDEA...



THE SOLDIER SAFELY REACHED THE GROUND WITH THE HELP OF **IMAM AL-HADI'S (A)** LANTERN, BUT HE STILL JOINED THE OTHER SOLDIERS AS THEY BARGED INTO THE IMAM'S (A) HOME AND SEARCHED EVERY CORNER. HOWEVER, ALL THEY FOUND WAS A SMALL BAG OF COINS AND AN OLD SWORD.

WITH THAT, THE SOLDIERS ARRESTED THE IMAM (A) AND TOOK HIM TO THE PALACE.

BACK IN THE PALACE, THE WAZIR WAS REJOICING THAT THE IMAM (A) HAD BEEN ARRESTED, LAUGHING GLEEFULLY.
OHH, I'M SO LUCKY.
SEEING ABUL HASAN (A) ARRESTED BRINGS ME NOTHING BUT JOY.
OH, I'LL HAVE THE FINEST CLOTHES, JEWELS AND WINE-OH YES, THE WINE!
AH LOOK! HERE COME THE GUARDS!
MY MASTER, WE TURNED THE ENTIRE HOUSE UPSIDE DOWN! ALL WE FOUND WERE THESE COINS AND THIS SWORD.
BRING THEM HERE!
CLINK CLINK RATTLE
HEY! WHAT ARE THESE COINS DOING WITH YOU?MY MOTHER'S ROYAL SEAL IS ON THIS BAG!
THAT MEANS THIS COIN BAG BELONGS TO MY MOTHER! DID YOU STEAL THESE FROM HER?!
IMAM AL-HADI'S (A) SILENCE MADE THE CALIPH GROW ANGRIER.
GRRRRR!
GO GET MY MOTHER. I WANT TO KNOW HOW HE GOT HER BAG!
WON'T SHE BE SLEEPING?
BUT SIR, IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!
YOU'RE ASKING QUESTIONS AGAIN?
GO NOW!
I DON'T CARE WHAT TIME IT IS!

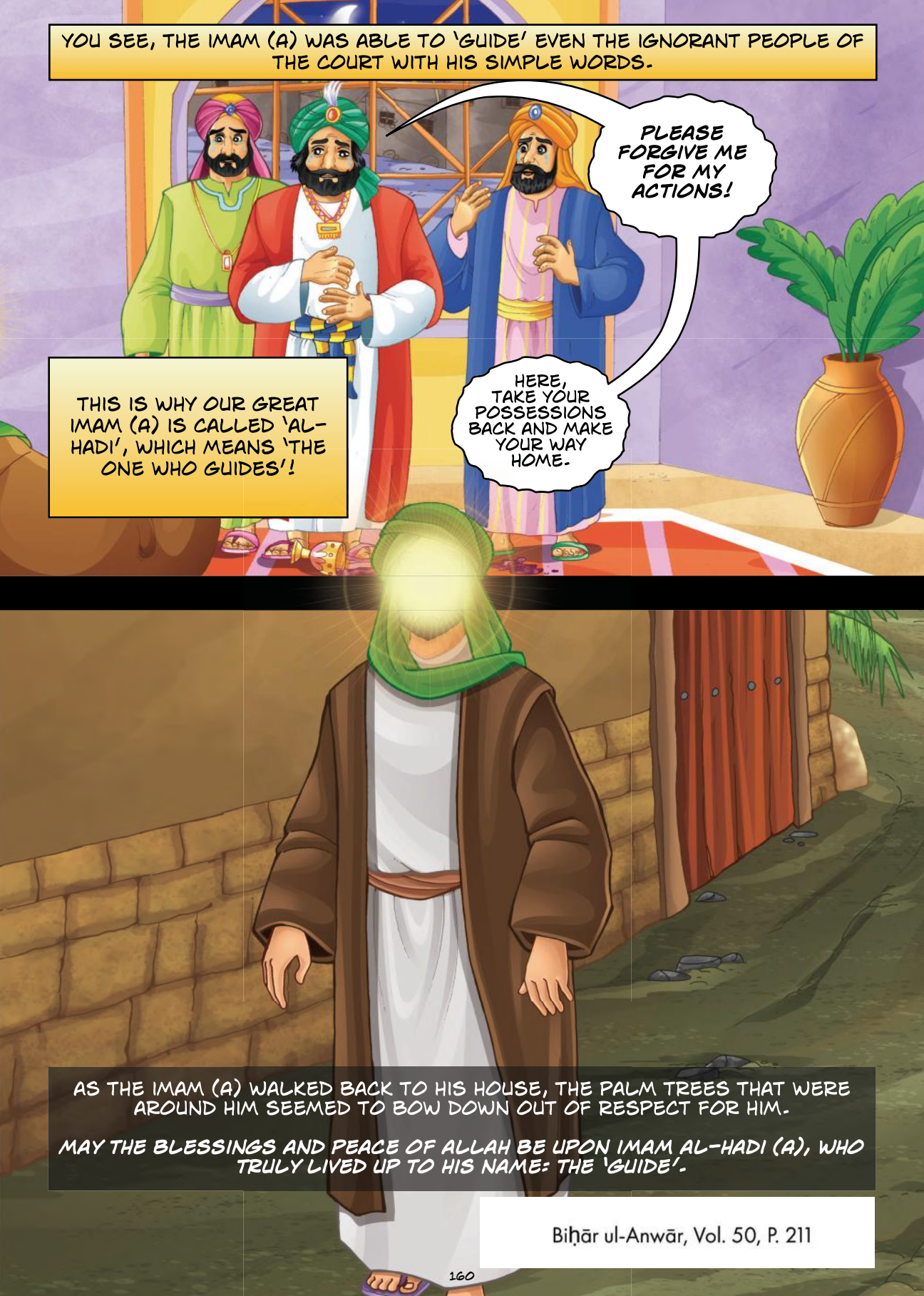
THE COMMANDER WENT TO FETCH THE CALIPH'S MOTHER. SOON, SHE ENTERED THE COURT LOOKING TIRED AND WEARY.

MUTAWAKKIL TURNED RED WITH EMBARRASSMENT AND IMMEDIATELY SUMMONED OVER HIS WAZIR.

THE WAZIR'S ONLY RESPONSE WAS TO HANG HIS HEAD IN SHAME.

GAH!
THIS IS SO AWKWARD! WHAT SHOULD I DO... OH, I KNOW! NOTHING A BIT OF WINE CAN'T FIX!
HAHA!
WELL, NO WORRIES. NOW THAT YOU ARE HERE, DRINK THIS. I INVITE YOU TO STAY AND JOIN MY PARTY.
YO U ALWAYS LOOK SO SOLEMN AND SERIOUS, ABUL HASAN (A). COME, HAVE FUN AND BE HAPPY JUST LIKE THE REST
NEVER!
I SWEAR BY ALLAH THAT MY ENTIRE BODY, EVEN MY FLESH AND BLOOD, FINDS ALCOHOL DISGUSTING!
THE CALIPH BECAME ANGRY AGAIN AND TRIED TO EMBARRASS THE IMAM (A) ONCE MORE...
OKAY, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DRINK, WHY DON'T YOU SING FOR US INSTEAD?
YOU CAN AT LEAST DO THAT RIGHT?
COME ON, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
LET'S HEAR IT NOW! I ORDER YOU AS THE KING!
WITH THE SAD SILENCE OF THE IMAM (A), THE CALIPH TOOK ANOTHER SWIG OF WINE AND CONTINUED HIS TAUNTS...

YA ALLAH, IT'S SO SORROWFUL TO SEE THESE PEOPLE, DRINKING AND LAUGHING SO DISGUSTINGLY...
SILENCE!
BELIEVERS DO NOT SING THE TYPE OF SONGS THAT YOU LIKE TO HEAR, BUT I WILL RECITE A POEM INSTEAD, TO REMIND YOU OF ALLAH.
WITH THAT, THE IMAM (A) BEGAN RECITING IN A BEAUTIFUL VOICE...
THEY BUILD FORTS ON TOP OF MOUNTAINS, GUARDED BY STRONG MEN, BUT THERE IS NO POINT!
THEIR POWER AND GREATNESS WILL SOON DISAPPEAR.
IN THE END, THEY WILL ALL DIE AND FALL INTO THEIR GRAVES.
WHEN THEY ARE BURIED, VOICES WILL CALL OUT, 'NOW WHERE ARE YOUR PALACES, THRONES, AND CROWNS?!...
WHERE ARE YOUR FACES OF EASE AND LUXURY, THAT YOU ONCE PROTECTED WITH CURTAINS AND SCREENS?
ONCE IN THE GRAVE, THESE FACES WILL BE EATEN BY WORMS.
HOW MUCH THESE PEOPLE ATE AND DRANK, BUT EVENTUALLY, THEY THEMSELVES WILL BE EATEN!'
OH MY... MUTAWAKKIL'S FACE IS PALE! HE IS SPEECHLESS FOR ONCE!
SOB SOB SNIFF
THE IMAM'S (A) TRUTHFUL WORDS CAUSED EVERYONE WHO WAS GATHERED THERE THAT NIGHT TO BECOME UPSET AND REGRET THEIR ACTIONS.
THE POWER OF IMAM AL-HADI'S (A) WORDS CAUSED HIM AND EVERYONE AROUND HIM TO START CRYING.


YOU SEE, THE IMAM (A) WAS ABLE TO 'GUIDE' EVEN THE IGNORANT PEOPLE OF THE COURT WITH HIS SIMPLE WORDS.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR MY ACTIONS!
HERE, TAKE YOUR POSSESSIONS BACK AND MAKE YOUR WAY HOME.
THIS IS WHY OUR GREAT IMAM (A) IS CALLED 'AL-HADI', WHICH MEANS 'THE ONE WHO GUIDES'!
AS THE IMAM (A) WALKED BACK TO HIS HOUSE, THE PALM TREES THAT WERE AROUND HIM SEEMED TO BOW DOWN OUT OF RESPECT FOR HIM.
MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM AL-HADI (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME: THE 'GUIDE'.
Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 50, P. 211

13 IMAM AL-ASKARI (A)

A HUMAN WHO ATTAINS CLOSENESS TO ALLAH NEVER FEELS LONELY.

Mizān al-Ḥikmah, Number:2072

NAME
HASAN

NICKNAME
ABU MUHAMMAD

BIRTHDATE
RABI ATH-THANI 10, 232 AH

BIRTHPLACE
MEDINA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM AL-HADI (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
SAWSAN

IMAMATE
RAJAB 3, 254 AH AT AGE 22

SHAHADAH
RABI'UL AWWAL 8, 260 AH AT AGE 28

IMAM AL-ASKARI'S (A) LIFE

Imam Hasan al-Askari (a) is born in the city of Medina.

232 AH

He moves with his father to the city of Samarra at the age of one.

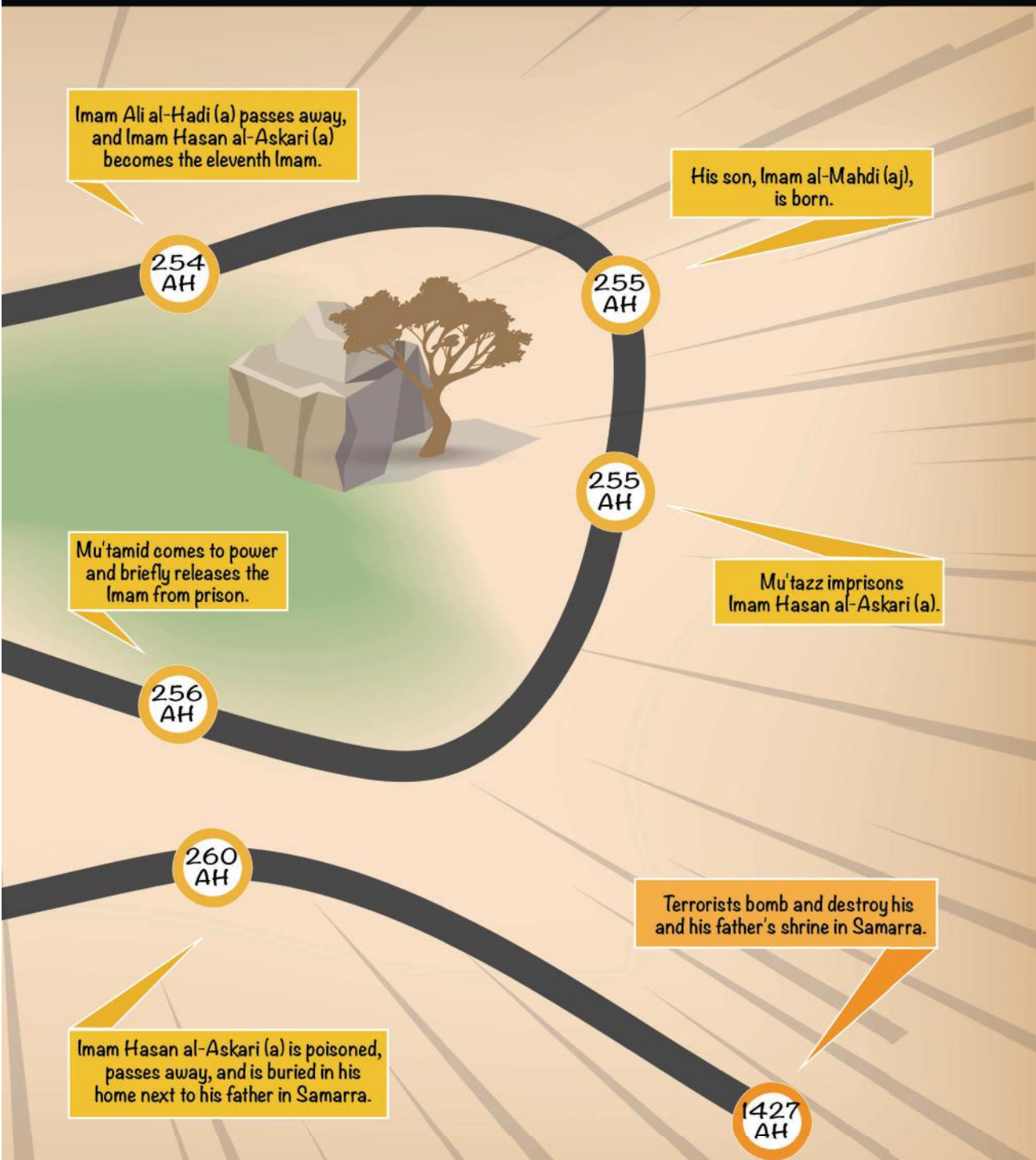
233 AH

The Imam works on expanding his network of representatives and guides the Shia with their beliefs and helps with their underground political activities.

256 AH

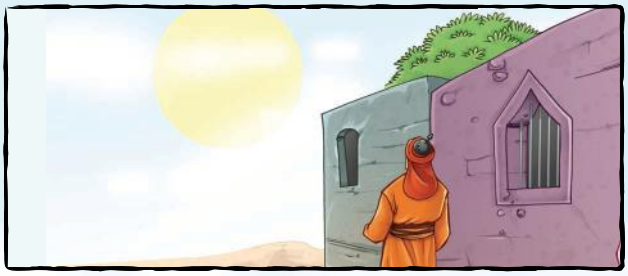
260 AH

Mu'tamid imprisons the Imam once again and releases him a month later.


Imam Ali al-Hadi (a) passes away, and Imam Hasan al-Askari (a) becomes the eleventh Imam.
254 AH
His son, Imam al-Mahdi (aj), is born.
255 AH
255 AH
Mu'tazz imprisons Imam Hasan al-Askari (a).
Mu'tamid comes to power and briefly releases the Imam from prison.
256 AH
260 AH
Imam Hasan al-Askari (a) is poisoned, passes away, and is buried in his home next to his father in Samarra.
Terrorists bomb and destroy his and his father's shrine in Samarra.
1427 AH

IT WAS A HOT DAY IN THE DESERT OF MEDINA AS THE CARAVAN PREPARED TO LEAVE FOR THEIR DESTINATION...
OKAY! ALL OF THE CAMELS ARE MOUNTED AND THE LUGGAGE IS PACKED SAFELY.
WE ARE READY TO - HUH?!
WHY ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE GATHERED HERE?
ARE THEY ALL REALLY HERE JUST TO SAY FAREWELL TO ALI IBN MUHAMMAD (A)? HE MUST HAVE BEEN A LOVED MAN!
I BID FAREWELL TO YOU ALL!
M AY ALLAH PROTECT YOU, O PEOPLE OF MEDIN
AFTER HEARING THAT SIMPLE MESSAGE, THE VILLAGERS BEGAN TO CRY AND WAIL, FOR THEY WERE NOT WILLING TO LET GO OF THEIR IMAM (A).
O IMAM (A)! I WILL MISS YOU!
WE'RE HEART-BROKEN!
PLEASE STAY, O IMAM (A)!
THIS ABBASID CALIPH IS SO CRUEL.
I CANNOT BELIEVE HE FEELS SO THREATENED BY THE LOVE THE PEOPLE HAVE FOR THE 10TH IMAM (A) AND HIS FAMILY.
WHY ELSE WOULD HE ORDER THEM TO MOVE TO SAMARRA? BAH! WHAT A TYRANT!

AFTER A VERY LONG AND TIRING JOURNEY, THEY FINALLY REACHED SAMARRA SAFELY AND CAME UPON A PRISON-LIKE HOME.



THIS IS YOUR NEW HOME. WE WILL BE STANDING GUARD OUTSIDE, SO YOU CANNOT COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE.

THANK YOU, DEAR SOLDIER, FOR BRINGING US SAFELY.

O FATHER, IS THIS OUR NEW HOME? THERE ARE BARS ON THE WINDOWS.

YES, DEAR HASAN (A), THIS IS WHERE WE WILL LIVE FROM NOW ON. ALLAH IS WITH US, AND WE WILL MAKE THIS HOME FULL OF LOVE AND SPIRITUALITY.

MY BELOVED FATHER, WHAT IS THIS PLACE CALLED?

ASKAR.

ASKAR?! WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

ASKAR MEANS 'ARMY'.

YOU SEE, THIS IS AN ARMY BASE, AND WE ARE SURROUNDED BY THE HOUSES OF SOLDIERS AND COMMANDERS.

HOWEVER, SOON AFTER THE IMAM (A) AND HIS FAMILY MOVED TO SAMARRA, THE EVIL CALIPH MARTYRED IMAM AL-HADI (A). NOW, IMAM HASAN AL-ASKARI (A) WAS THE IMAM (A) AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR GUIDING THE PEOPLE.

IMAM HASAN AL-ASKARI (A) HAD NOW BECOME THE ELEVENTH IMAM OF ALL THE SHI'AS AT THE AGE OF 22. EVEN LOCKED AWAY IN THE ARMY BASE OF ASKAR, HIS STRONG FAITH ATTRACTED MANY LOYAL FOLLOWERS. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THIS DID NOT PLEASE THE CALIPH, MO'TAMID.

HUFF HUFF HUFF

YES, I HEARD HIM SCREAMING AND RAN STRAIGHT HERE.

I WONDER WHAT IS SO SCARY THAT IT CAN GIVE SUCH A POWERFUL MAN NIGHTMARES?!

WHAT HAPPENED? DID HE HAVE ANOTHER NIGHTMARE?

AHHH... THE SAME NIGHTMARE AGAIN! THAT HASAN AL-ASKARI (A)!

I THOUGHT IF I KEPT HIM SURROUNDED BY MY GUARDS IN ASKAR THEN THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY PROBLEMS,

BUT HE STILL HAS SO MANY FOLLOWERS! WHY CAN'T I CONTROL HIM?? I KEEP DREAMING THAT ONE DAY ***HE*** WILL TAKE OVER ***MY*** KINGDOM.

NO! I CANNOT LET THAT HAPPEN! I KNOW... I WILL LOCK HIM UP! YES!

I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND- I AM ONE OF THE STRONGEST WARRIORS.
AND THE KING HAS ESPECIALLY APPOINTED ME TO TORTURE HIM,
YET AFTER EVERY BEATING, HE SMILES AND CONTINUES PRAYING TO HIS LORD.
HOW CAN HE POSSIBLY HAVE SO MUCH FAITH?
AND SO THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT HE DID. ONE NIGHT, THE SOLDIERS INVADED THE IMAM'S (A) HOME AND TOOK HIM TO A VERY FRIGHTENING AND DARK JAIL CELL...
I HAVE TORTURED HIM ENDLESSLY AT ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT,
YET I FIND HIM ALWAYS PROSTRATING TO HIS LORD, ALLAH.
I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL GUILTY FOR MY ACTIONS.
ONE DAY, THE CALIPH CALLED THE TWO GUARDS TO HIS PALACE TO FIND OUT HOW THE IMAM (A) WAS DOING IN PRISON...
WHAT CAN WE SAY ABOUT A MAN WHO FASTS DURING THE DAY AND PRAYS ALL NIGHT?
HE SPENDS DAY AND NIGHT WORSHIPPING ALLAH.
WHEN WE SEE HIM TALKING TO ALLAH,
TEARS COME TO OUR EYES AND WE FEEL TOO ASHAMED TO HARM HIM.
WHAT?! I WILL HAVE YOU BEHEADED FOR YOUR DISLOYALTY! GET OUT OF HERE! YOU TWO ARE WEAK!
I WILL FIND EVEN MORE RUTHLESS AND STRONG SOLDIERS THAN YOU!
HOWEVER, NO MATTER HOW MANY CRUEL AND HARD-HEARTED SOLDIERS THE CALIPH SENT, EACH ONE CAME OUT OF THE PRISON REFUSING TO HURT SUCH A PURE AND PIOUS MAN. EVENTUALLY, THE CALIPH HAD TO ADMIT DEFEAT.

SO THIS IS THE STORY OF IMAM HASAN AL-ASKARI (A). HE WAS IMPRISONED MANY TIMES THROUGHOUT HIS LIFE, BUT EACH TIME HE WAS RELEASED BACK TO THE ARMY BASE. EVERY TIME HE WAS FREED, PEOPLE WOULD BECOME OVERJOYED, AND HIS FOLLOWERS AND COMPANIONS INCREASED AS THE YEARS PASSED.
GRRRR! THAT'S IT! I'VE HAD IT! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE.
I'M GOING TO GET RID OF HASAN IBN ALI (A) ONCE AND FOR ALL..
GUARDS!!! TAKE NOTE. HE MUST BE POISONED. ONCE HE'S GONE,
I WILL BE THE BELOVED RULER OF THE PEOPLE. THEY WILL SEE, THEY WILL ALL SEE...
THE CALIPH ORDERED SOMEONE TO POISON THE IMAM (A), AND AT THE YOUNG AGE OF 28 YEARS, THE IMAM WAS MARTYRED.
MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM AL-ASKARI (A), WHO TRULY LIVED UP TO HIS NAME. ALTHOUGH HE WAS SURROUNDED BY SOLDIERS HE WAS THE DEFINITION OF A TRUE SOLDIER. HE WAS A SOLDIER OF ALLAH AND ALWAYS TREADED IN HIS PATH. HIS TITLE, ASKARI, WAS GIVEN TO HIM BY ALLAH AND WAS MENTIONED BY THE PROPHET (S) AND IMAMS (A) YEARS BEFORE HE MOVED TO ASKAR.
'Ilal ash-Sharāi', Vol. 1, P. 241
Kashf ul-Ghummah fi Ma'rifah al-A'immah, Vol. 3, P. 290

14 IMAM AL-MAHDI (AJ)

SOMEONE ASKED THE IMAM (AJ) WHY PEOPLE CANNOT CHOOSE AN IMAM WHOM THEY THINK IS RIGHTEOUS. IMAM AL-MAHDI (AJ) RESPONDED BY ASKING HIM: "IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE CHOSEN PERSON IS ACTUALLY SECRETLY CORRUPT, BECAUSE NOBODY REALLY KNOWS WHAT IS IN THEIR HEARTS?" THE MAN SAID "YES". SO, THE IMAM (AJ) SAID: "THAT'S WHY!"

Nūr ath-Thaqalain, Vol. 2, P. 76, Number:283

NAME
MAHDI

NICKNAME
ABUL QASIM

BIRTHDATE
SHA'BAN 15, 255 AH

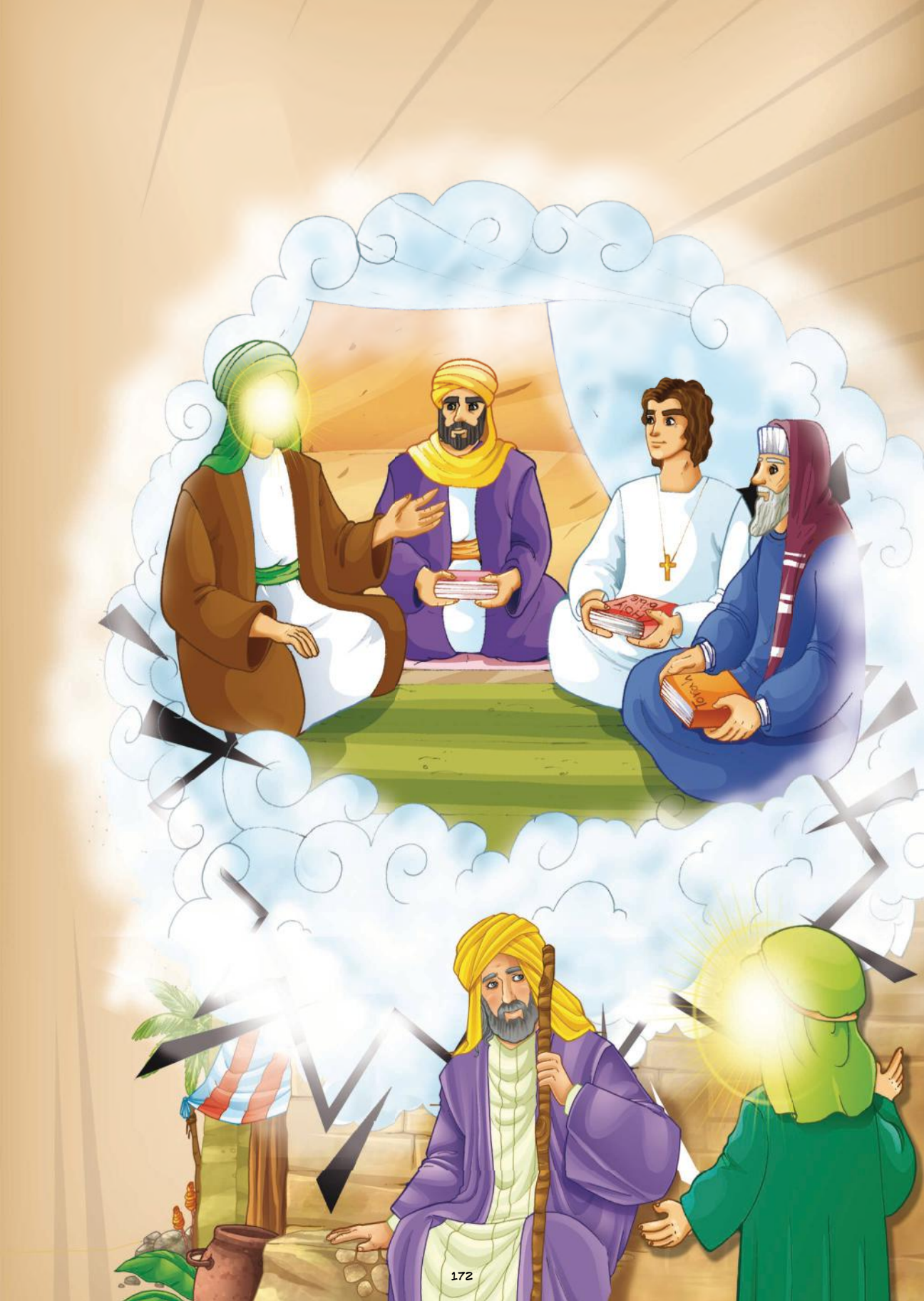
BIRTHPLACE
SAMARRA

FATHER'S NAME
IMAM HASAN AL-ASKARI (A)

MOTHER'S NAME
NARJIS

IMAMATE
RABI'UL AWWAL 8, 260 AH AT AGE 5

ALIVE UNTIL TODAY.
WE PRAY FOR THE HASTENING OF HIS RETURN.



IMAM AL-MAHDI'S (AJ) LIFE

255 AH

Imam al-Mahdi (aj) is born in the city of Samarra.

259 AH

His mother, Narjis Khatoon, passes away.

???

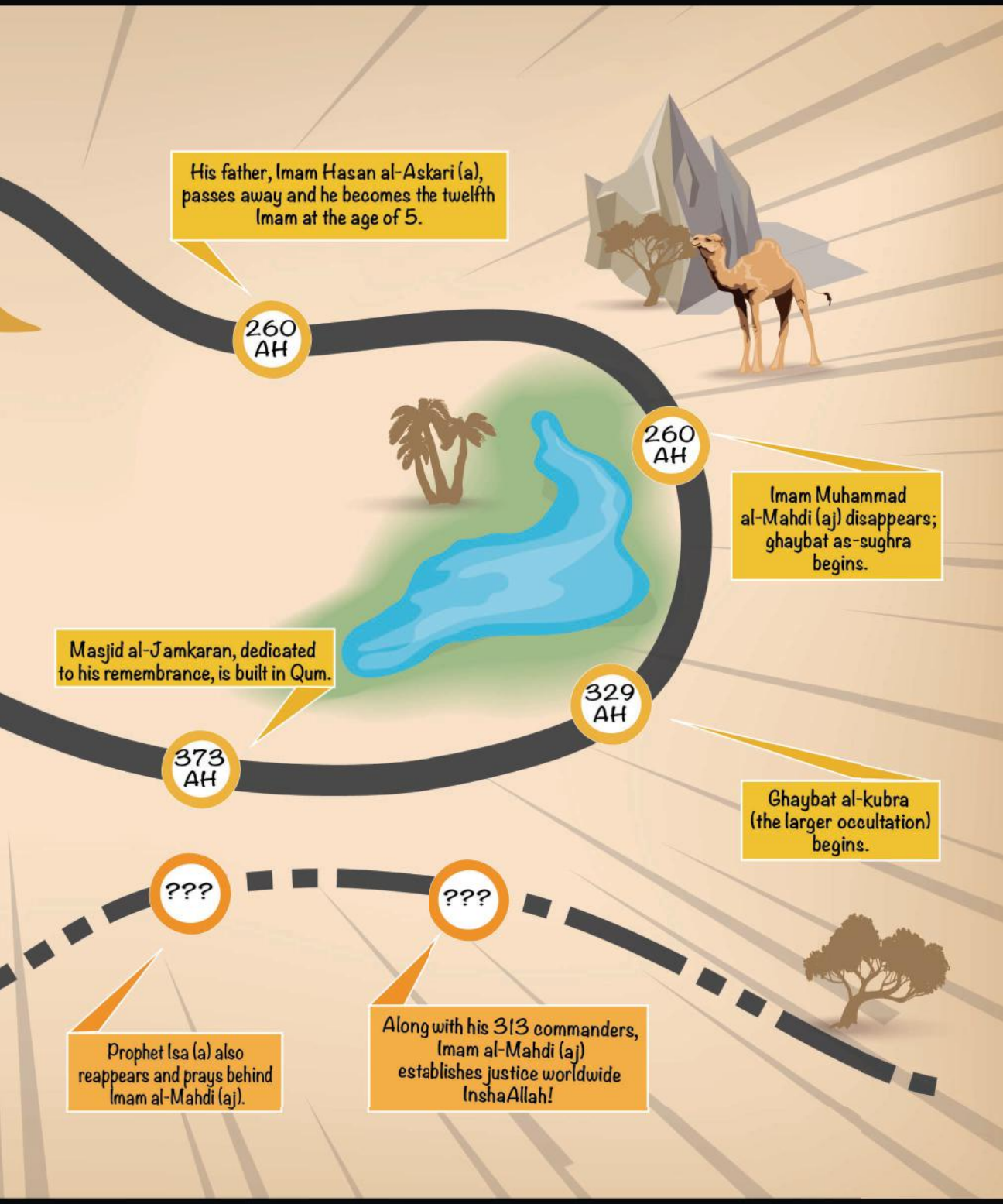
The coming of the Sufyani and Yamani which are signs of his reappearance.

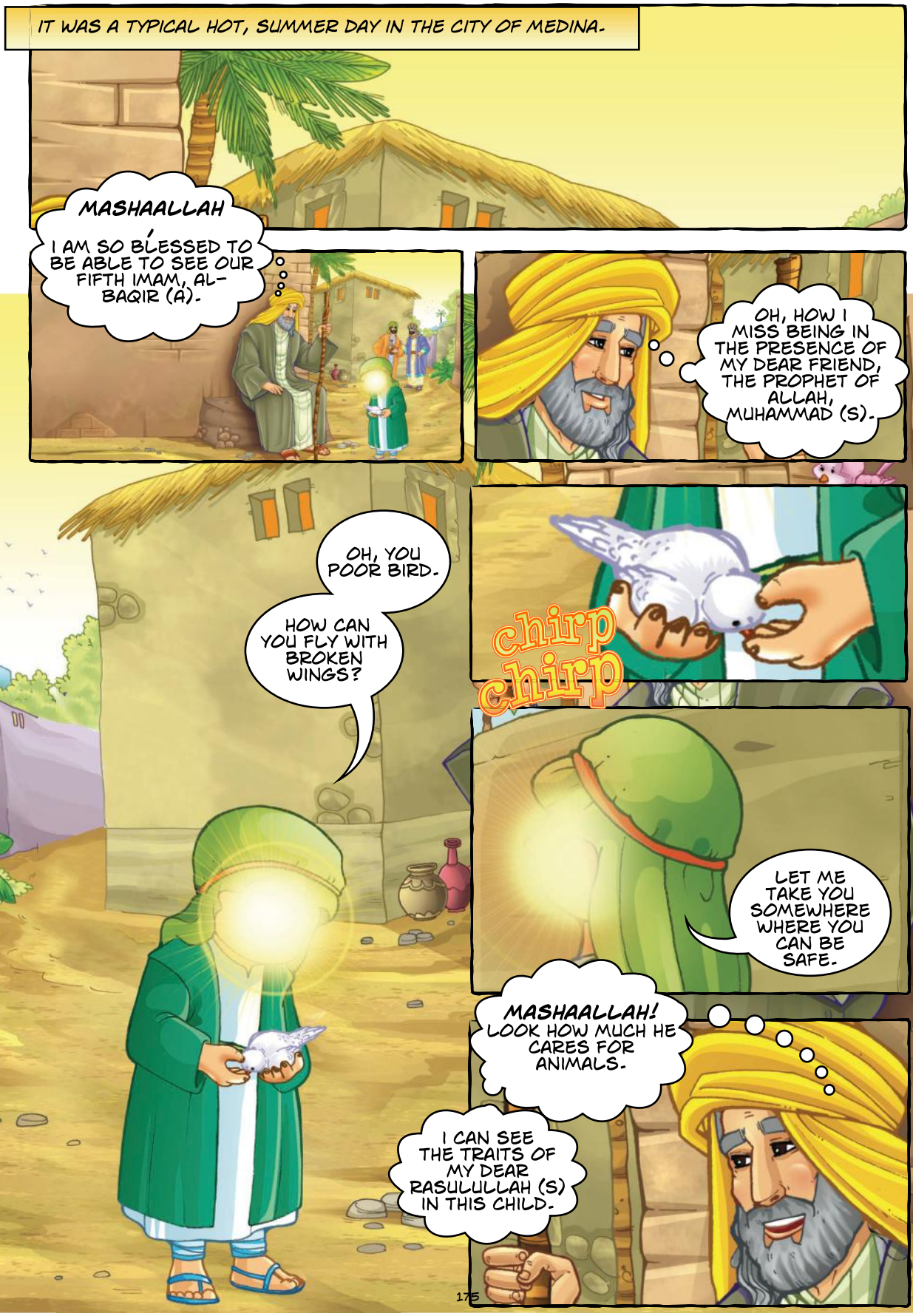
NOW

Shias worldwide pray for his safety and try to reform themselves in preparation for his arrival.

???

Global injustice overtakes the world, and the world's humans become eager and thirsty for justice and divine leadership.


His father, Imam Hasan al-Askari (a), passes away and he becomes the twelfth Imam at the age of 5.
260 AH
260 AH
Imam Muhammad al-Mahdi (aj) disappears; ghaybat as-sughra begins.
Masjid al-Jamkaran, dedicated to his remembrance, is built in Qum.
373 AH
329 AH
Ghaybat al-kubra (the larger occultation) begins.
???
???
Prophet Isa (a) also reappears and prays behind Imam al-Mahdi (aj).
Along with his 313 commanders, Imam al-Mahdi (aj) establishes justice worldwide InshaAllah!


IT WAS A TYPICAL HOT, SUMMER DAY IN THE CITY OF MEDINA.
MASHAALLAH, I AM SO BLESSED TO BE ABLE TO SEE OUR FIFTH IMAM, AL-BAQIR (A).
OH, HOW I MISS BEING IN THE PRESENCE OF MY DEAR FRIEND, THE PROPHET OF ALLAH, MUHAMMAD (S).
chirp chirp
OH, YOU POOR BIRD.
HOW CAN YOU FLY WITH BROKEN WINGS?
LET ME TAKE YOU SOMEWHERE WHERE YOU CAN BE SAFE.
MASHAALLAH! LOOK HOW MUCH HE CARES FOR ANIMALS.
I CAN SEE THE TRAITS OF MY DEAR RASULULLAH (S) IN THIS CHILD.

EXCUSE ME! EXCUSE ME, SIR!

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP ME?

OF COURSE.

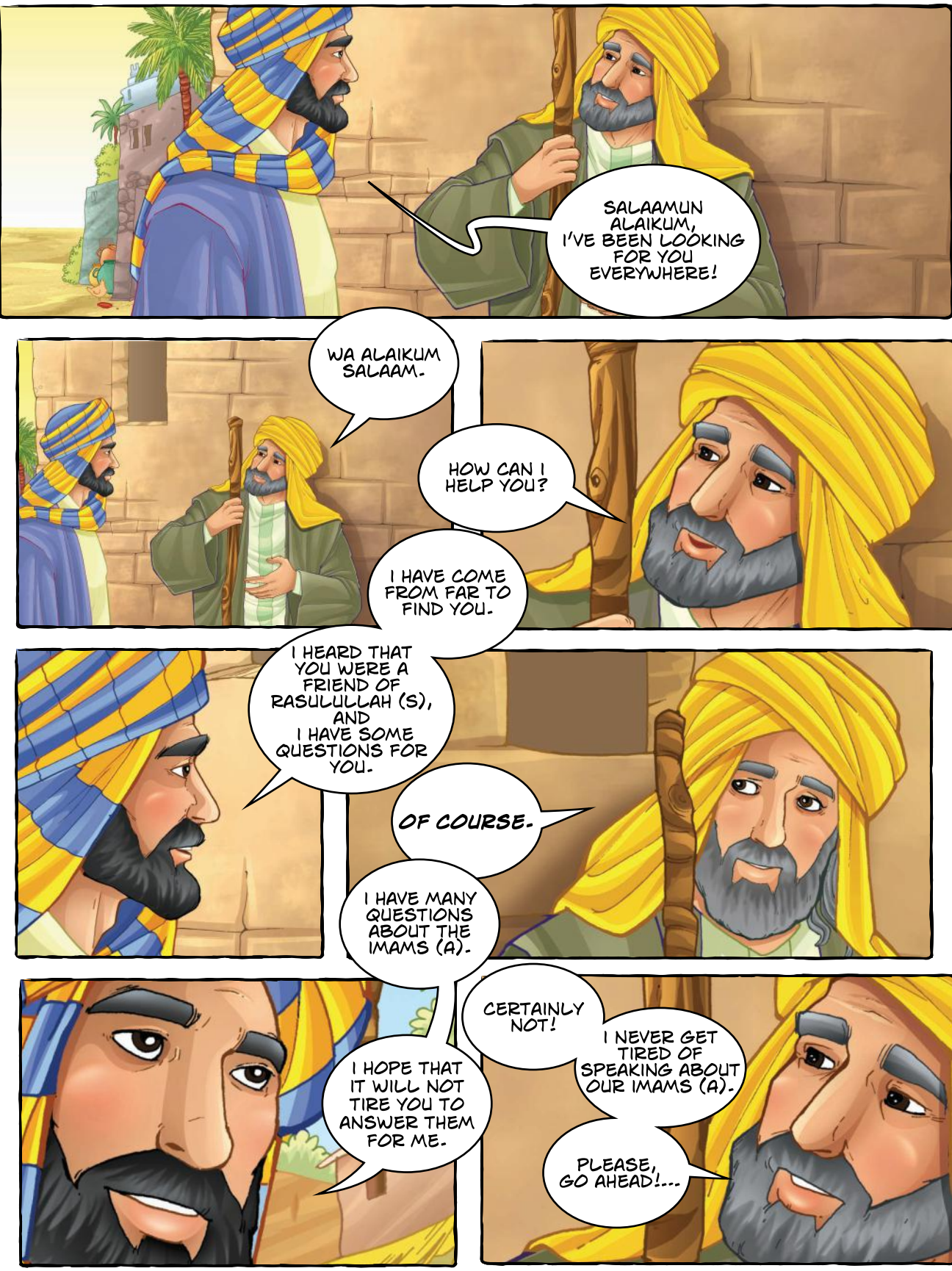
I'M LOOKING FOR A MAN BY THE NAME OF JABIR.

HE WAS A FRIEND OF THE PROPHET(S) OF ALLAH.

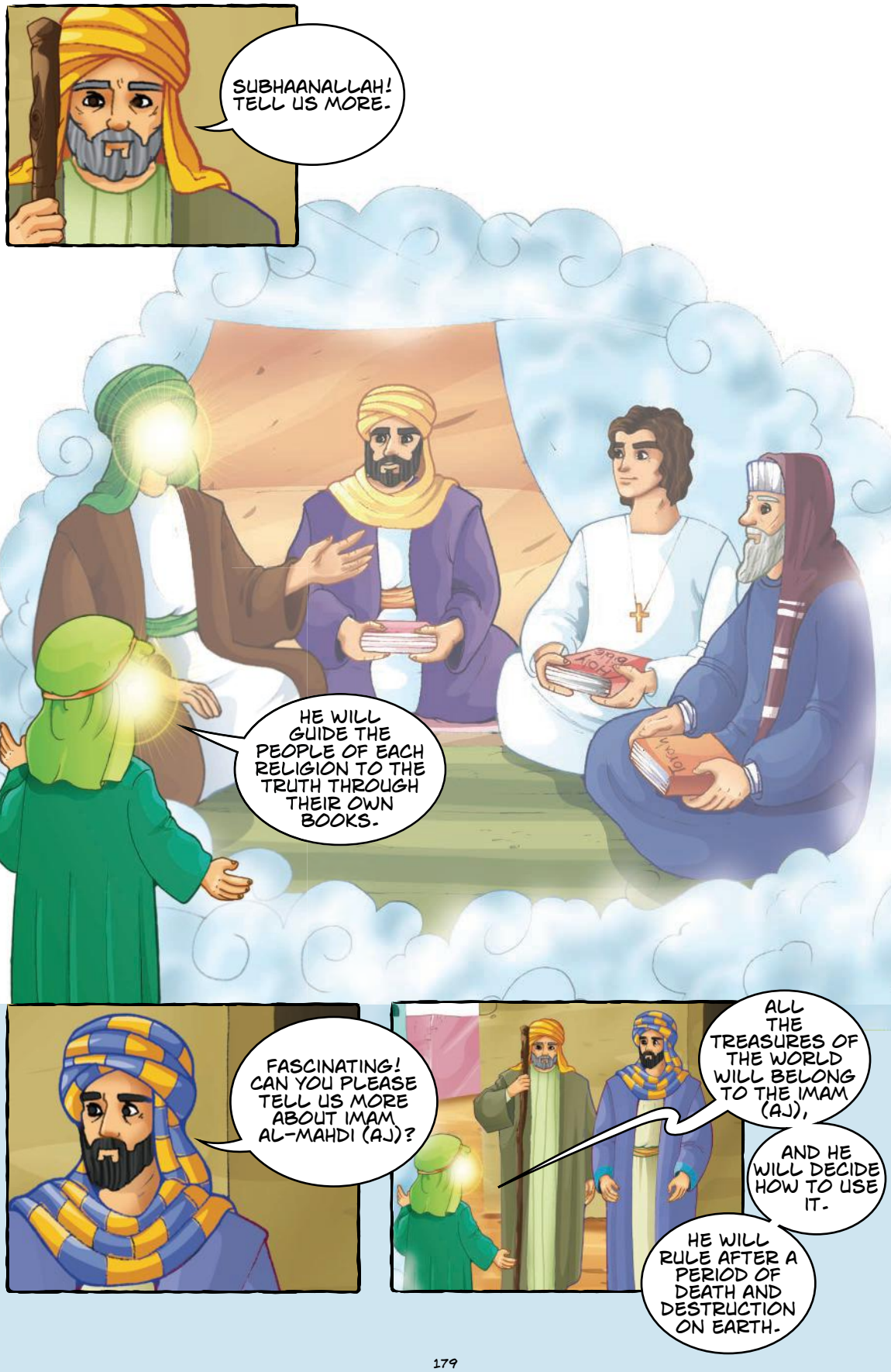
EACH AFTERNOON, YOU WILL FIND JABIR BY THAT HOUSE OVER THERE.

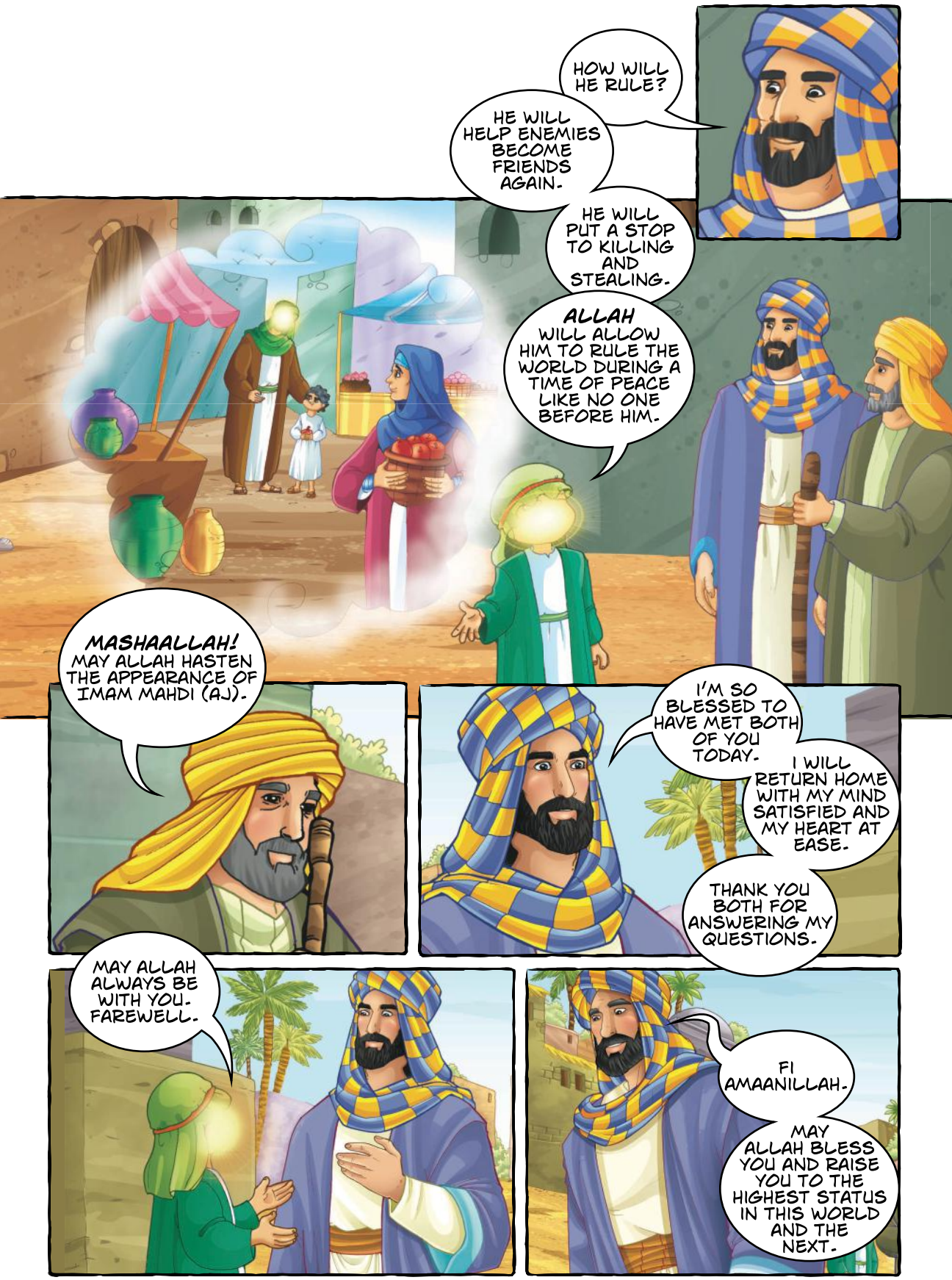
HE COMES TO WATCH THAT YOUNG BOY.

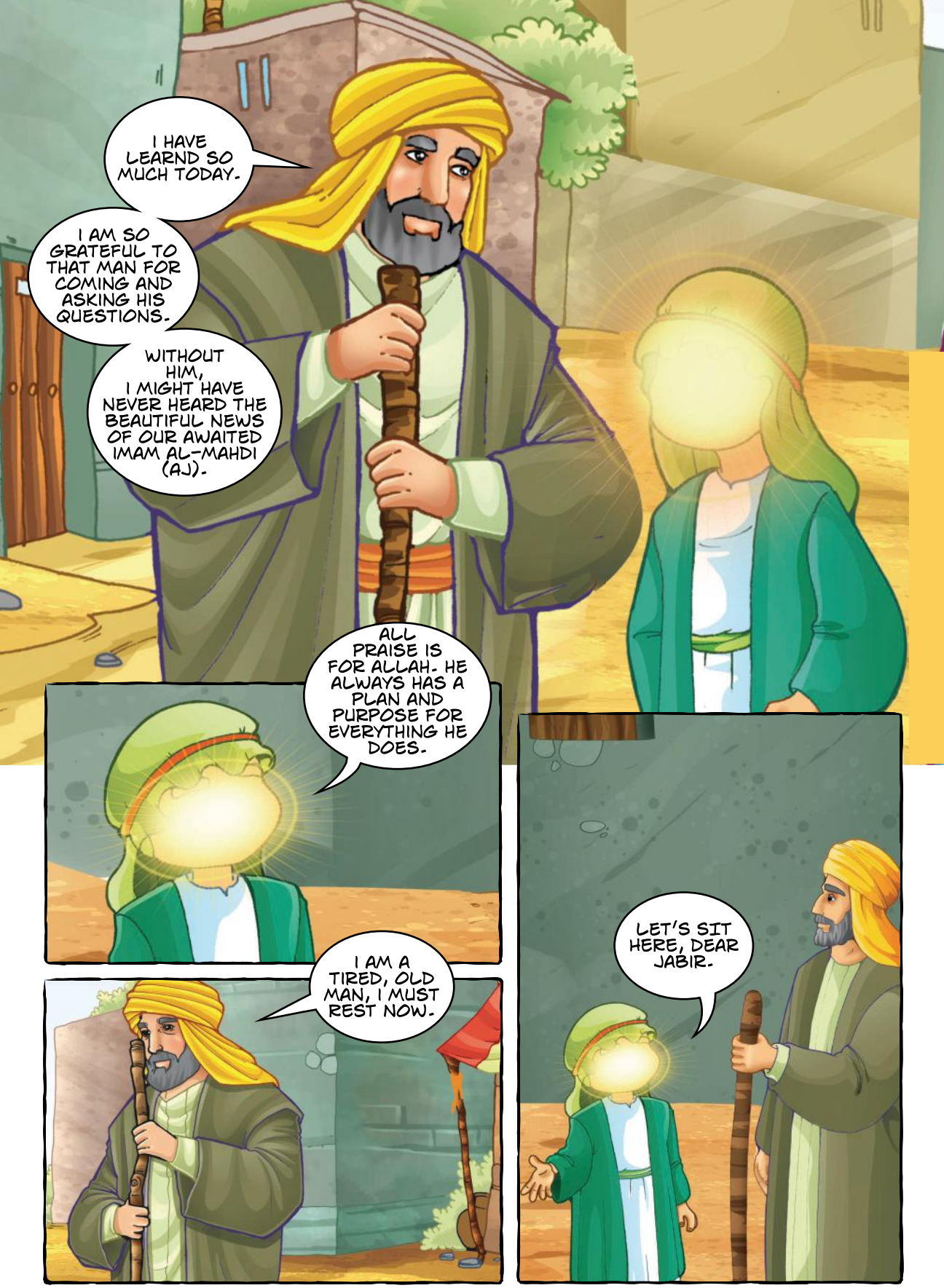
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.


SALAAMUN ALAIKUM, I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE!
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM.
HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
I HAVE COME FROM FAR TO FIND YOU.
I HEARD THAT YOU WERE A FRIEND OF RASULULLAH (S), AND I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU.
OF COURSE.
I HAVE MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE IMAMS (A).
I HOPE THAT IT WILL NOT TIRE YOU TO ANSWER THEM FOR ME.
CERTAINLY NOT!
I NEVER GET TIRED OF SPEAKING ABOUT OUR IMAMS (A).
PLEASE, GO AHEAD!...

SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
MY FINAL QUESTION IS ABOUT OUR LAST IMAM (AJ).
WHY WILL HE BE NAMED IMAM 'AL-MAHDI' (AJ)?
HMMM
THIS IS A QUESTION FOR IMAM AL-BAQIR (A). LETS GO ASK HIM!
WE HAVE COME TO YOU BECAUSE WE ARE BOTH IN NEED OF AN IMPORTANT ANSWER!
SALAAMUN ALAIKUM DEAR IMAM (A)!
WA ALAIKUM SALAAM!
DEAR IMAM (A), I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHY OUR TWELFTH IMAM WAS GIVEN THE TITLE 'AL-MAHDI' (AJ)?
HE WILL BE NAMED AL-MAHDI (AJ), THE ONE WHO IS GUIDED BY ALLAH AND GUIDES,
BECAUSE EVEN WHEN HE IS UNABLE TO BE SEEN, HE WILL STILL GUIDE THE PEOPLE.
JUST LIKE THE SUN SHINES EVEN WHILE IT IS HIDDEN TO US BEHIND THE CLOUDS.


SUBHAANALLAH! TELL US MORE.
HE WILL GUIDE THE PEOPLE OF EACH RELIGION TO THE TRUTH THROUGH THEIR OWN BOOKS.
FASCINATING! CAN YOU PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT IMAM AL-MAHDI (AJ)?
ALL THE TREASURES OF THE WORLD WILL BELONG TO THE IMAM (AJ),
AND HE WILL DECIDE HOW TO USE IT.
HE WILL RULE AFTER A PERIOD OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION ON EARTH.


HOW WILL HE RULE?
HE WILL HELP ENEMIES BECOME FRIENDS AGAIN.
HE WILL PUT A STOP TO KILLING AND STEALING.
ALLAH WILL ALLOW HIM TO RULE THE WORLD DURING A TIME OF PEACE LIKE NO ONE BEFORE HIM.
MASHAALLAH! MAY ALLAH HASTEN THE APPEARANCE OF IMAM MAHDI (AJ).
I'M SO BLESSED TO HAVE MET BOTH OF YOU TODAY.
I WILL RETURN HOME WITH MY MIND SATISFIED AND MY HEART AT EASE.
THANK YOU BOTH FOR ANSWERING MY QUESTIONS.
MAY ALLAH ALWAYS BE WITH YOU. FAREWELL.
FI AMAANILLAH.
MAY ALLAH BLESS YOU AND RAISE YOU TO THE HIGHEST STATUS IN THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT.


I HAVE LEARND SO MUCH TODAY.
I AM SO GRATEFUL TO THAT MAN FOR COMING AND ASKING HIS QUESTIONS.
WITHOUT HIM, I MIGHT HAVE NEVER HEARD THE BEAUTIFUL NEWS OF OUR AWAITED IMAM AL-MAHDI (AJ).
ALL PRAISE IS FOR ALLAH. HE ALWAYS HAS A PLAN AND PURPOSE FOR EVERYTHING HE DOES.
I AM A TIRED, OLD MAN, I MUST REST NOW.
LET'S SIT HERE, DEAR JABIR.

HOW BLESSED AND LUCKY ARE THE PEOPLE WHO WILL LIVE IN THE TIME OF IMAM AL-MAHDI (AJ). THEY WILL HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING *GUIDED* BY AN IMAM WHO WILL BRING JUSTICE AND PEACE TO THE ENTIRE WORLD! I HOPE THEY REALIZE HOW BLESSED AND LUCKY THEY WILL BE...

MAY THE BLESSINGS AND PEACE OF ALLAH BE UPON IMAM AL-MAHDI (AJ), WHO WILL TRULY LIVE UP TO HIS NAME: 'THE GUIDED ONE WHO GUIDES.'

Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 36, P. 250
Biḥār ul-Anwār, Vol. 52, P. 351
Kamāl ud-Dīn, Vol. 1, P. 146 & 365

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